

Famous Southern Families in Fiction and in F

THURSDAY, MAY 29, 1997

9 a.m. "Belonging: The Family in the South, An Overview," by Dr. William Ferris, Director, The Center for the Study of Southern Culture, The University of Mississippi. Followed by Question-and-Answer Session

10 a.m. Refreshments

10:30 a.m. "Three Great Southern Families: The Jacksons, the Donelsons, the Clays," by Dr. Robert V. Remini, Professor of History Emeritus, The University of Illinois. Followed by Question-and-Answer Session

11:30 a.m. Lunch

1 p.m. "...Another Kind of Remembering: The Dumbars, the Hendersons, and the Surgets of Adams County, Mississippi," by Ellen Douglas (Josephine Huxton). Author, of Jackson and Adams County, Mississippi. Followed by Question-and-Answer Session

1:45 p.m. "Black and White Families at Arlington House, the Robert E. Lee Memorial Mansion," by Dr. Marie Tyler-McGraw, Historian, National Park Service, Washington, D.C., Followed by Question-and-Answer Session

2:30 p.m. Refreshments

3 p.m. "The Families of Eudora Welty's Fiction," by Dr. Noel Polk, Professor of English, The University of Southern Mississippi. Followed by Question-and-Answer Session

4 p.m. Booksignings

8:30 p.m. CHOICE OF:

The Ponder Heart by Eudora Welty. Presented by the Natchez Little Theatre, Linton Avenue (\$10, Ticket A)

OR

The Award-Winning Film *Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored*, Based on Mr. Clifton Taubert's Memoirs of the Same Name, The Natchez Esala Hotel (\$5, Ticket B)

FRIDAY, MAY 30, 1997

9 a.m. "William Alexander Percy and Walker Percy: Writers of the South," by Dr. Patrick Samway, SJ, Library Editor, America, New York City, Followed by Question-and-Answer Session

10 a.m. Refreshments

10:30 a.m. "The Longs of Louisiana," by Dr. Glen Jeansonne, Professor of History, University of Wisconsin. Followed by Question-and-Answer Session

11:30 a.m. Lunch

1 p.m. "Aristocrats, Rebels, and Rednecks: Faulkner's Families in Fact and Fiction" by Dr. Kenneth Holdich, Professor of English Emeritus, University of New Orleans. Followed by Question-and-Answer Session

2 p.m. Refreshments

2:30 p.m. "Of Dining and Dynasties: The Families Behind Antoine's, Brennan's, and Galatoire's Restaurants in New Orleans," Comments and the Showing of a Film by Mr. Jason Buchtel, Founder, The Southern Film Institute, Inc., New Orleans. Followed by Question-and-Answer Session

3:15 p.m. Booksignings

5-8 p.m. "Literary Landmarks in Natchez's Garden District," a Guided Walking Tour with Visits inside the Private Historic Homes **Bailey House**, **Boone House**, and **Barnes House** as Well as 175-Year-Old Trinity Episcopal Church. Exhibits and Gala Courtyard Reception/Buffer at Barnes House (\$50, Ticket C).
(NOTE: \$25 of the Literary Landmarks Ticket Price is Tax-deductible.)

8:30 p.m. Repeat Performances from May 29
CHOICE OF:

The Ponder Heart, The Natchez Little Theatre, Linton Avenue (\$10, Ticket A)

OR

Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored, The Natchez Esala Hotel (\$5, Ticket B)

SATURDAY, MAY 31
DR. BILLY B. THAM

9 a.m. "Redneck Heaven: The People of America," by Bethany S. Author, New Orleans. Followed by Answer Session

10 a.m. Refreshments

10:30 a.m. "Providence: Its People," by Will D. Campbell, Tennessee. Followed by Question-and-Answer Session

11:30 a.m. Booksignings Followed by Question-and-Answer Session

2 p.m. "Next of Kin - the Gutmans, the McMurrans, the Intimate Glimpse into the House of a Historically Prominent Natchez. Ms. Kathleen McClain Jelks, National Historical Park, National Park Service. Followed by Question-and-Answer Session

3-6 p.m. "When Next of Kin Meets Three Natchez Suburban Neighborhood Tour of the Natchez Houses **Melrose**, **Monmouth**, and **Historic Homes of the Turners**, the McMurrans, and the Corners, with (Ticket D, \$15, Transportation not included)

8 p.m. "Literary Glants: A Remember" (Ticket E, \$10)

* Presentation of the Literary Excellence Awards to Spencer and Mr. Shelby Foote

* "Quilted Together: The Poet Come Home to Mississippi" by Clifton Taubert, Author and Tulsa, and Mr. James A. Autry, of the Des Moines National Poet Former President, The Merit Corporation, Des Moines

9:15 p.m. Booksignings and Honoring the "Literary Glants," Natchez Association for the Preservation of American Culture (Ticket F, \$10)

PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

Famous South

THURSDAY, MAY 29, 1997



Aubrey



Bowen



Brown



Buchtel



Butman



Campbell



Carpenter



Douglas



Ferris



Foote



Garner



Gulce



Harrison



Hillard



Holdich



Jeansonne



Jenkins



Miller



Polk



Ray



Remini



Salmon



Samway



Spencer



Stribling



Taubert



Thames



Tyler-McGraw



White

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DR. BILLY B. THAMES DAY

9 a.m. "Redneck Heaven: The Admirable Sons of America," by Bethany Ewald Bultman, Author, New Orleans. Followed by Question-and-Answer Session

10 a.m. Refreshments

10:30 a.m. "Providence: Its Land and Its People," by Will D. Campbell, Author, Mt. Juliet, Tennessee. Followed by Question-and-Answer Session

11:30 a.m. Booksignings Followed by Lunch

2 p.m. "Next of Kin -- the Turners, the Quitmans, the McMurrans, the Conners: An Intimate Glimpse into the Households of Four Historically Prominent Natchez Families," by Ms. Kathleen McClain Jenkins, Natchez National Historical Park, National Park Service. Followed by Question-and-Answer Session

3-6 p.m. "When Next of Kin Meant Next Door: Three Natchez Suburban Estates," a Neighborhood Tour of the Nationally Significant Houses **Melrose, Monmouth, and Linden**, the Historic Homes of the Turners, the Quitmans, the McMurrans, and the Conners, with Refreshments (Ticket D, \$15, Transportation not Included)

8 p.m. "Literary Giants: An Evening to Remember" (Ticket E, \$10)

* Presentation of the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Awards to Ms. Elizabeth Spencer and Mr. Shelby Foote

* "Quilted Together: The Writer and the Poet Come Home to Mississippi," by Mr. Clifton Taubert, Author and Film Producer, Tulsa, and Mr. James A. Autry, Poet, Founder of the Des Moines National Poetry Festival, and Former President, The Meredith Publishing Corporation, Des Moines

9:15 p.m. **Booksignings and Reception** Honoring the "Literary Giants," Hosted by the Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American Culture (Ticket F, \$10)

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FREE OR LOW-COST EVENTS

* **At The Natchez Eola Hotel:** Free programs, maps, and evaluation forms; free "Southern Families" art exhibit by William M. Smith, Jr.; free quilt exhibit by Laura Bailey Parks; \$1 chances on a 1936 edition of *Gone With the Wind*; conference-related books for sale

* **At Melrose National Historic Landmark:** Free exhibit of family genealogies connected to the mansion

* **At Judge George W. Armstrong Public Library,** 220 South Commerce Street: Free exhibit of books related to the Celebration theme

* **At the Historic Natchez Foundation,** 108 South Commerce Street: Cultural Crossroads quilt exhibit

* **At the Museum of the Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American Culture,** 301 Market Street: Photographs and artifacts relating to African-American families, \$1

* **At Stratton Chapel Gallery,** 405 State Street: "Historic Natchez Families," a photograph exhibit, \$3

A SPECIAL WELCOME

A special welcome goes to Outstanding Humanities Division Students and Faculty Members at Mississippi's colleges and universities. Schools and honorees are: **Alcorn State University:** Stephanie Marley, Student; Mrs. Clarence Carter Smith, Faculty; **Coahoma Community College:** Ukilah Dorsey and Chauncy D. Prentiss, Students; Karen Woods and Wanda Reed, Faculty; **Copiah-Lincoln Community College:** Evelyn Lottin and Celeste Jones, Students; Carolyn Gwin and Janis Carol Royals, Faculty; **East Central Community College:** Lana Lohrer, Student; Melinda Smith, Faculty; **East Mississippi Community College:** Betty R. Killebrew, Faculty; **Itawamba Community College:** Ellene McCrimmon, Faculty; **Jackson State University:** Mary D. Coleman, Faculty; **Jones Junior College:** Patricia D. Holfield, Faculty; **Mississippi Delta Community College:** Crystal Bradshaw, Student; Rosemary Wright, Faculty; **Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College:** Duke Sutherland, Faculty; **Southwest Mississippi Community College:** Stephanie Wilson, Student; Sharon E. Lawson, Faculty; **Tougaloo College:** Candice Love, Student; Ben E. Bailey, Faculty; **University of Southern Mississippi:** Robyn Curtis, Student; John Guice, Faculty

ABOUT THE COVER PHOTOGRAPH

Two famous Southern writers, William Faulkner and Eudora Welty, are shown on the occasion of Faulkner's receiving the National Institute of Arts and Letters Gold Medal for Fiction in 1962. Both writers, who made their families famous, have written about fictional families who likewise have become famous. (Photograph courtesy of University Archives, The University of Mississippi.)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

The ninth Natchez Literary Celebration is June 4-6, 1998, with the theme, "The South: Its Land and Its Literature."

THANK YOU

The National Endowment for the Humanities through the Mississippi Humanities Council has again this year financially supported the Natchez Literary Celebration. This grant, numerous cash gifts, and in-kind donations have helped make the event possible.

CASH DONATIONS

Benefactor (\$1,000 or more): Adams County Board of Supervisors, City of Natchez, Deposit Guaranty National Bank, Eastern National Park & Monument Association, Entergy, International Paper Foundation, Lady Luck Mississippi, Inc., Natchez Newspapers, Inc., Dr. and Mrs. Randy Tillman

Patron (\$99-\$500): Dr. and Mrs. Robert Barnes, Britton & Koontz First National Bank, Kelly's Kids, Inc., Natchez Regional Medical Center, The Order of the First Families of Mississippi, United Mississippi Bank

Donor (\$49-\$100): Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bertolotto, Callon Petroleum Company, Mr. and Mrs. Sim C. Callon, Concordia Bank & Trust Co., Potter Garcia Management Group, Rotary Club of Natchez, Silas M. Simmons & Company, Mr. and Mrs. H.I. Stahlman, III

Supporter (\$99-\$25): BellSouth, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Durkin, Dr. Sidney O. Graves, Dr. and Mrs. John D. W. Guice, Mr. and Mrs. Hayden Kaiser, Jr., Dr. and Mrs. Bruce Kuehnle, Miss-Lou Vending, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Nathanson, Mrs. Leonore O'Malley, Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Stubbs, Mr. Everette Truly, Mr. and Mrs. William F. Winter

IN-KIND DONATIONS

Assistance: Copiah-Lincoln's Elderhostel, Phi Beta Lambda, and Student Support Services; Natchez Convention and Visitor Bureau; The Natchez Little Theatre; Truly, Smith, Latham and Kuehnle Law Firm of Natchez; University of Mississippi Archives

Exhibits: Cultural Crossroads Quilts, 1936 *Gone With the Wind* by Mr. John Davis of Highpoint, Judge George W. Armstrong Public Library, Mrs. Laura Bailey Parks' Quilts, Melrose Family Genealogy Exhibit, Museum of the Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American Culture, Norman/Gandy Photographs in Stratton Chapel Gallery, "Southern Families" Art Work by Mr. William M. Smith, Jr.

Historic Houses and Buildings: Bailey House, Barnes House, Boone House, The Burn, Crothers House, Dunleith, Elgin, Gov. Holmes House, Griffith-McComas Town House, The Guest House Historic Inn, Highpoint, Hope Farm, Linden, Magnolia Hall, Melrose, Monmouth, Mount Repose, The Natchez Democrat Town House, Riverview, Shields Town House, Trinity Episcopal Church, Wensel House

Special thanks: to Mrs. Pat Cater, Elderhostel Coordinator, Mrs. Carolyn Harper, NLC Fiscal Manager, and Mrs. Christy Williams, NLC Administrative Assistant, all of Copiah-Lincoln

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**The eighth annual
NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION**

**FAMOUS SOUTHERN FAMILIES
IN FICTION AND IN FACT**

From Eudora Welty's fictional Ponders to William Faulkner's legendary Snopeses...from the real-life Lees of Virginia to the Longs of Louisiana...from philosophers to poets...from food experts to military heroes...from aristocrats to rebels to rednecks...

All kinds of Southerners will be explored during the 1997 Natchez Literary Celebration, an Olympic Award-winning event. This excitement-packed conference, called by Mississippi Humanities Council evaluators the state's "most significant conference of its kind," will reveal tantalizing details about Southern individuals and groups who left their legacy on the region's history, literature, and culture.

Free daytime presentations will take place at The Natchez Eola Hotel. Related free and low-cost events include tours of historic mansions, a play, a film, book signings, exhibits, and receptions.

Director of Proceedings



Mr. Winter

The Honorable William F. Winter
President, Board of Trustees
Mississippi Department
of Archives and History
and Former Governor of Mississippi

Celebration Co-chairmen



Mr. Barnett



Mr. Dodson



Mrs. Smith

Celebration co-chairmen are James F. Barnett, Jr., Director of Historic Properties, Mississippi Department of Archives and History in Natchez; Robert Dodson, Superintendent, Natchez National Historical Park; and Carolyn Vance Smith, Instructor of English, Director of Public Information, and State Elderhostel Director, Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Natchez.

TICKET INFORMATION

For tickets, complete this form and mail it with check to Natchez Box Office, P.O. Box 1264, Natchez, MS 39121. To order by credit card, call (601) 445-0353 or 1-800-862-3259.

Name _____

Street _____

City, state, zip _____

Phone _____

TICKETED EVENTS

NO. TICKETS COST

ALL TICKETS _____ @ \$100 _____

ALL TICKETS PLUS FOUR

NIGHTS at downtown hotel

(double occupancy) **AND**

11 MEALS (dinner May 28

-breakfast June 1) _____ @ \$395 _____

Name of roommate: _____

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS

A. The Ponder Heart

May 29 or May 30

(Circle desired date.) _____ @ \$10 _____

B. Once Upon a Time...

May 29 or May 30

(Circle desired date.) _____ @ \$5 _____

C. Literary Landmark

Tour May 30

_____ @ \$50 _____

D. "Next of Kin" Tour

May 31

_____ @ \$15 _____

E. "Literary Giants"

Evening May 31

_____ @ \$10 _____

F. Reception May 31

_____ @ \$10 _____

Total payment enclosed _____

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ABOUT THE ANNUAL NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION
NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI

"The Three R's: Reading, 'Rising and Rejoicing" – That's what the annual Natchez Literary Celebration is all about, says founder and co-chairman Carolyn Vance Smith, instructor of English at Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Natchez.

"Since it began in 1990, this three-day literary and cultural event has attracted hundreds of people each year," Smith said. "And we think 1997 will be another big success."

Cost of each year's NLC is very low, Smith said, because of generous grants from the Mississippi Humanities Council and corporate and business donors. "Co-Lin, the Park Service and the MDAH likewise go all out to support the conference," she said.

"Because of all this, plus the widespread volunteerism and other support from the Natchez community, we can keep our lectures free," Smith said. "And we price all the meals, tours and other special activities at our cost."

Co-chairmen with Smith are Robert Dodson, superintendent of the Natchez National Historical Park, and James Barnett of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

Presented each year in early summer, the Natchez Literary Celebration features about a dozen lectures by nationally known scholars and writers, enhanced by related tours, exhibits, films, plays, readings, concerts, entertainments and meals.

"The Literary Celebration proves that people hunger after top-quality conferences devoted to literature, history, and the arts," Dodson said.

And top-quality it is, according to Dr. Charles Lowery, chairman of the history department at Mississippi State University, one of many people who have attended each

year since 1990.

"The Natchez Literary Celebration is unique among humanities programs funded by the Mississippi Humanities Council," Lowery said. "It is beyond question the best program I have been part of during many years of involvement in Mississippi and elsewhere."

"It is remarkably successful for several reasons. For the richness of its humanities content, for the happy choice of program participants, and for the virtually flawless execution of a carefully planned program, credit is owed the event's founder, Carolyn Vance Smith, and her co-chairmen."

"The celebration is a credit not just to the sponsoring and funding agencies but also to the citizens of Natchez, whose unmatched hospitality and deep appreciation of their extraordinary legacy reflect so favorably on the entire state of Mississippi."

The conference has won state and national awards, including in 1991 the Governor's Award for Tourism Achievement; in 1995 a Cultural Olympiad award for outstanding programming from the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games; and in 1996 an award for the Most Outstanding Festival or Event in Mississippi from the Mississippi Tourism Commission.⁷

"Since Natchez is known for its hospitality, our conferences also feature social and educational activities related to the conference theme," Smith said. "These fun things make literature and history come alive, which people love."

Each year's conference deals with some aspect of Southern history. Theme in 1990 was the Natchez Trade; in 1991, the 275th birthday of Natchez; in 1992, Spanish Natchez; in 1993, the Mississippi River; in 1994, Southern writers; in 1995, King Cotton;

TRINITY TALES

Trinity Episcopal Church 385 S. Commerce Natchez, Ms 39128 February, 1997

1997 LITERARY CELEBRATION

The theme of the 1997 Literary Celebration is Famous Southern Families in Fiction and Fact. An evening tour of homes and buildings which reflect this theme will be a special feature of the Celebration. In conjunction with this tour, and in honor of Trinity's 175th anniversary year, Trinity Church will host a display featuring present and past parishioners, rectors and visitors who have either written books or been the subject of books. Please help us to ensure that our research is thorough by giving us names of authors or books, or any other suggestions that relate to this project. Call Marsha Colson at 445-6605 ext. 3163 weekdays or 446-7595 evenings and weekends. Thanks.

Page 10 Country Roads Early Summer 1997

May 29—31
Natchez Literary Celebration
Natchez, Miss.

Famous Southern families will be "examined and discussed" at the eighth annual Natchez Literary Celebration in Natchez. For a complete schedule of this year's celebration, turn to page 31.

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The Eighth Annual NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION

presents

FAMOUS SOUTHERN FAMILIES IN FICTION AND IN FACT

An Olympic Award-winning conference devoted to

Literature - History - Arts - Culture

May 29 - 31, 1997

The Natchez Eola Hotel • Natchez, Mississippi

Free

Lectures about aristocrats, rebels and rednecks...

- In the fiction of Eudora Welty and William Faulkner
- In the real lives of the Longs of Louisiana, the Percys of Mississippi, the Lees of Virginia, and prominent Natchez families

Low-Cost

- Tours of historic mansions
- The Eudora Welty play, *The Ponder Heart*
- The Clifton Taulbert movie, *Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored*
- Festive social events and book signings

For tickets, call (601) 445-0353 or 1-800-463-3259

This project is partially funded by a grant from the Mississippi Humanities Council and is sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and the National Park Service.

Famous Southern families theme for NLC

Famous Southern families will be "passed and discussed" at the eighth annual Natchez Literary Celebration May 29-31, said conference co-chairman Carolyn Vance Smith.

"From the Lees of Virginia to the Longs of Louisiana, from the Ponders in Eudora Welty's fiction to the Snopeses in William Faulkner's, we'll learn a lot about real and fictitious families," she said.

The theme of the 1997 event is "Famous Southern Families in Fiction and Fact," Smith said.

Speakers are writers and scholars from across the country, many of whom are famous in their own right, she said.

"They will discuss individual Southern families as well as groups of Southerners from rednecks to aristocrats," Smith said.

To be headquartered at the Natchez Data Hotel, the 1997 Celebration, like previous celebrations, is a three-day conference exploring the literature, history and culture of the Deep South. Co-sponsors are

Community College, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the National Park Service.

"Enhancements to the lecture series are tours to historic mansions, a performance of Miss Welty's *The Ponder Heart*, a showing of the four-star film version of *Once Upon a Time...*, custom book signing parties and gala social events," Smith said.

"Most of the lecture series is free, with tours to historic homes and buildings, the film, the play, and social events priced individually at low cost," Smith said.

Tickets are available by calling the Natchez Box office, 1-800-862-1159. Complete ticket packages cost \$100, with a special package at \$395 which includes all tickets, four nights housing in a downtown hotel and 11 meals, May 28 through June 4.

Natchez Literary Celebration speakers include

- Clifton Taulbert of Tulsa, Okla., a Mississippi native who is the prize-winning author of *Once Upon A Time When We Were*



**The Natchez
Literary Celebration
May 29-31, 1997**

Colored and *Last Train North*.

- James Astry of Des Moines, Iowa, author of two acclaimed volumes of poetry and writer of such best-selling non-fiction books as *Confessions of an Accidental Businessman* and *Love & Profit: the Art of Caring Leadership*.

- Will D. Campbell of Mt. Juliet, Tenn., formerly of Mississippi, prize-winning author of *Providence*, *Brother to a Dragonfly*

and *Forty Acres and a Goat*.

- Ellen Douglas of Jackson, author of *A Family's Affairs*, *Apostles of Light* and other novels, all of which have won literary awards.

- Bethany Bultman of New Orleans, La., author of dozens of articles in national magazines and several books, including a runaway bestseller, *Redneck Heaven*.

- Kenneth W. Holdich of the University Of New Orleans, program director of the New Orleans Literary Festival and an authority on William Faulkner.

- Glen Jeansonne of the University of Wisconsin, author of *Messiah of the Masses: Huey P. Long*.

- Robert V. Remini of the University of Chicago, the nation's leading authority on Andrew

Jackson and Henry Clay.

- Patrick Samway, S.J., of New York, literary editor of *America*, and author of a new biography, *Walker Percy: A Life*.

- Noel Polk of the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, author and editor of numerous works about Eudora Welty.

- William Ferris, director of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at the University Of Mississippi in Oxford, and editor of the *The Encyclopedia of Southern Culture*.

- Jason R. Buchtel of New Orleans, producer of the film *Of Dining and Dynamics: A Documentary*, which reveals the families behind the New Orleans restaurants, *Antoine's*, *Gambini's* and *Commander's Palace*.

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1997 Natchez Literary Celebration

The Southern Register

Winter/Spring 1997

"Famous Southern Families in Fiction and in Fact" is the theme of the eighth annual Natchez Literary Celebration to be held May 28-31.

"From the Lees of Virginia to the Longs of Louisiana, from the Ponders of Eudora Welty's fiction to the Snopeses in William Faulkner's, we'll learn a lot about real and fictitious families," promises Carolyn Vance Smith, conference cochairman.

The 1997 Celebration is a three-day conference that explores the literature, history, and culture of the Deep South. The lecture series will feature writers and scholars from across the country, including Will D. Campbell, Ellen Douglas, William Ferris, and Clifton Taulbert. This year's Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award will be presented to Elizabeth Spencer and Shelby Foote.

Conference participants may also opt to attend a theatre performance of Eudora Welty's *The Ponder Heart*, a showing of the film version of Taulbert's *Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored*, or to take part in any of several tours, book signings, and receptions.

"Most of the lecture series is free, with tours to historic homes and buildings, the film, the play and social events priced individually at low cost," Smith said. Tickets are available by calling Natchez Box Office (800-862-3259). Complete ticket packages cost \$100, with a special package at \$395, which includes all tickets, four nights' lodging, and 11 meals, May 28-June 1.

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Natchez Literary Celebration group honored for work

By CAROLYN VANCE SMITH
Special to the Democrat

The Natchez Literary Celebration, its sponsors and chairmen were among more than a dozen groups honored Monday in Jackson by Entergy Mississippi for "outstanding work which improves the quality of life for all the state's citizens."

Also honored were such projects as the Mississippi Wildlife Federation; New Horizon Ministries, involved with education and employment training; and the March of Dimes.

The Literary Celebration was the only event in Natchez to be honored.

"It is part of the infrastructure in our state, making Mississippi's community more appealing, promoting learning and literacy," said Entergy President Donald E. Meiners.

An annual three-day conference devoted to the South's literature, history and culture, the Celebration won the 1995 Olympics Award for Humanities Programming and the 1996 Governor's Award for Most Outstanding Event in Mississippi.

It has annually won funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities through the Mississippi Humanities Council and will be featured in the NEH magazine, *Humanities*, in the May-June 1997 issue.

The literary event, now its eighth year, is sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, the

Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the National Park Service.

Celebration co-chairmen Carolyn Vance Smith of Co-Lin, James F. Barnett Jr. of MDAH and Robert Dodson of the park service were guests of Entergy at the meeting.

They joined about 200 people from across Mississippi to hear accolades from Meiners, Entergy Customer Service Director Fred Johnson of Jackson and Entergy Customer Service Manager Forest Persons of Natchez.

"Entergy takes pride in you and your contributions and your volunteers," Meiners said. "We at Entergy are proud of our partnership with communities across the state. There is a magic in partnerships. This synergy, this cooperative action, is extremely valuable. We salute you."

The group represents the finest of volunteerism in Mississippi, Johnson said.

"The credit for success goes to the person in the arena, the person who dares greatly, the person who is never timid. This dedication is what has earned for you the respect of Entergy."

Persons echoed this praise.

"Not a single person in this room does what they do to get rich," Persons said. "What they do is make Mississippi a better state, a better place to live. The Natchez Literary Celebration is something all of us are very, very proud of."

Page 14 Country Roads High Spring 1997

May 29 - 31
*The Natchez Literary
Celebration*
Natchez, Miss.

Famous Southern families will be "cussed and discussed" at the eighth annual Natchez Literary Celebration. The Lees of Virginia, the Longs of Louisiana, the Percys of Mississippi, the Ponders in Eudora Welty's fiction and the Compsons and Snopeses in Faulkner's include Southern dynasties to be explored in *Famous Southern Families in Fiction and in Fact*, an Olympic-award-winning three-day international conference led by writers and scholars famous in their own right. Look for a full schedule of events in the Early Summer edition of *Country Roads*. For information call (601) 446-5874. ♦

The Natchez Democrat, Natchez, Miss.
3/20/97

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The Natchez Democrat

OPINION

Literary celebration earns more accolades

The renown Natchez Literary Celebration keeps earning well-deserved accolades. This week, the celebration joined more than a dozen other cultural groups honored by Entergy Mississippi for "outstanding work which improves the quality of life for all the state's citizens."

It's just the latest in a long list of honors for the three-day festival, including a 1995 Olympics Award for Humanities Programming and the 1996 Governor's Award for Most Outstanding Event in Mississippi.

Sponsors of the celebration — Copiah-Lincoln Community College, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the National Park Service — continue to create innovative, exciting and educational programs for the annual event. It's no easy chore, and the recognition they've earned is well-deserved.

We say congratulations and thanks to all the folks who play a role in making the Natchez Literary Celebration a success.

Cover Pages

Spring 1997
Volume V, No. 2

Mississippi Connections

Greg Iles

At press time, *Mortal Fear* was still being tracked by the *New York Times* for best seller list, and movie people are reading manuscripts. The novel is in its third printing. It was the #2 book of five recommended in the March issue of *Mademoiselle* (page 116). Greg has had a full schedule of touring and is well into the writing of book #4.

If you need a book personalized, he has been most accommodating, so call the store and arrangements will be made. The thriller is not known for encouraging family communication, however; most readers report it awfully hard to put down!

An interview with Greg is featured in

the March-April issue of *Mississippi*.

Bethany (Betsy Ewald) Bultman

While *Redneck Heaven* is still getting its share of attention, Bethany's *The Joy of Entertaining*, written with Beverly Reese Church, is being introduced in a handsome paperback format by Abbeville Press this spring. The ultimate guide to gracious entertaining, the book will sell for \$24.95. The hard cover edition is out of print.

Ellen Douglas (Josephine Haxton)

Perhaps her favorite, and ours, LSU Press is reprinting *A Family's Affair* in April as part of their "Voices of the South" series. Set in the fictional town of Homochitto, this delightful tale chroni-

cles the lives of generations in the family of Kate Anderson. Douglas weaves a beautiful tapestry of the joys and sorrows that bond a family and create the texture of life.

Natchez Literary Celebration

Mark your calendar now—the dates are May 29 - 31 for the 8th celebration of this event. The theme is "Famous Southern Families in Fiction and in Fact." Note that speakers will include Bethany Bultman and Ellen Douglas. For info, call 446-1208.

Catherine Tillman

The March issue of *Savour Magazine* has a four page article penned by
(Continued on page 3)

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Natchez Literary Celebration receives more statewide recognition

Special to the Democrat

The Natchez Literary Celebration was in the spotlight again this week in Jackson when the Mississippi Legislature unanimously passed a special resolution celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Mississippi Humanities Council.

The Council in turn recognized the Literary Celebration as its most outstanding program and featured it at an anniversary luncheon meeting following the legislative ceremony.

Carolyn Vance Smith of Natchez, founder and co-chairman of the Celebration, was present for the legislative ceremony and was a speaker at the meeting.

"The Humanities Council has provided funding for the Literary Celebration each year since the event was founded in 1990," Smith said. "there is such prestige in saying that the National Endowment for the Humanities through the Mississippi Humanities Council approves our programs. We are eternally grateful for this support."

Dr. Barbara Carpenter, executive director of the Mississippi Humanities Council, said, "The Literary Celebration is the show piece of the Humanities Council. It's the best event we support."

The Natchez Literary Celebration is sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the Natchez National Historical Park of the National Park Service.

Co-chairmen with Smith are James Barnett Jr. of MDAH and Robert Dodson of the park service.

The eighth annual celebration will take place May 29-31 at the Natchez

Eola Hotel, using the theme, "Famous Southern Families in Fiction and in Fact."

The Humanities Council, which since 1972 has administered \$9 million in federal funds for humanities programming in Mississippi, received not only the special resolution but also a standing ovation from members of the House of Representatives.

"We are extremely pleased with this recognition," said Dr. Jack White of Starkville, president of the MHC board of trustees. Following the ceremony at the luncheon meeting, Smith presented a brief history of the Literary Celebration and recounted two special moments, including the reading in 1990 by Eudora Welty of one of her short stories to a standing-room only crowd at the Carriage House Restaurant and the recitation of poetry in 1995 by Maya Angelou to a packed Natchez City Auditorium.

"The Natchez Literary Celebration tops the list of five major programs recently funded by the MHC," Carpenter said. "The MHC averages 65 grants annually, all of which are matched with local funding sources, either in cash or in kind."

The 1997 MHC grant to the Literary Celebration totals \$12,500.

"We'll use this money to pay our speakers' fees and travel expenses," Smith said. "Without the Humanities Council's funding, the Literary Celebration would be severely diminished. The MHC has helped create a program in Natchez that obviously meets the needs of many people. All of us who work with the Celebration are deeply grateful."

THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT, Natchez, Miss.

Thursday, April 3, 1997

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The Natchez Democrat

OPINION

Natchez Literary Celebration needs your help

Item: "There is much romantic scenery about Natchez...I was relieved by the sight of an avenue of those beautiful trees called here the Pride of China." So wrote John James Audubon in his journal upon arrival in Natchez in 1820.

Item: Mark Twain described Natchez as "beautifully situated on one of those high spots" in an interesting chapter of his *Life on the Mississippi*. He goes on to describe ice houses of another day found in Natchez. The ice we take for granted Twain called "jewelry, and only the rich could wear it."

Item: Edwin Davis wrote about William Johnson, a free man of color who lived in Natchez in the 1800s, in *The Barber of Natchez*. This biography adds to what Johnson himself had written and was later published, *William Johnson's Diary: The Antebellum Diary of a Free Negro*.

These and hundreds of other books have been written about Natchez and by the citizens of Natchez during this colorful city's past three centuries. And though we know of many of these titles, we certainly don't know them all.

That's where you can help us. This year, the Natchez Literary Celebration, to take place May 29-31, is attempting a ground-breaking project: the compila-



Top of the Morning

Joan McLemore
Co-Lin librarian

tion of as many books by or about Natchez and its people as we can find.

This information will be used during the Celebration in the Garden District, when literary walking tours will be conducted, pointing out houses and other sites connected with Natchez's very own literature.

Perhaps you know some of the fabulous tidbits that would enhance our research. Though you may think what you know is legend or lore, it may very well be fact. And we want to know about it. Please let us hear from you. All you have to do is call us at Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Natchez, (601) 446-1107. If voice mail answers, please don't hang up. Leave your message, because we need your information!

Some folks have already told us about:

* Jim Bowie and his brother Rezin, subjects of *The Iron Mistress* by Paul I.

Wellman. These adventuresome entrepreneurs who traded horses in Natchez Under-the-Hill were made famous by the Bowie knife legend.

* D. Clayton James, a Natchez native, who wrote the definitive *Antebellum Natchez*, recently reprinted by LSU press.

* Varina Howell, Natchez wife of Jefferson Davis, who wrote the two-volume biography, *Jefferson Davis, Ex-President of the Confederate States of America: A Memoir*. She wound up in New York, writing for a living, and later was the subject of Eron Rowland's *Varina Howell, Wife of Jefferson Davis*.

* Sarah Ellis Dorsey, also from Natchez and also closely connected to Jefferson Davis, who wrote *Recollections of Henry Watkins Allen*, a biography of the Confederate governor of Louisiana.

* And of course the 20th century Natchez writers Richard Wright, Ellen Douglas, Eudora Welty, Greg Iles, Bethany Ewald Bultman, Alice Walworth Graham, Courtney Parker, Tom and Joan Gandy, Ron and Mimi Miller, Sim Callon, Carolyn Vance Smith...and the list goes on.

Whom can you add to the list? We're waiting to hear from you today! Just call (601) 446-1107.

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Try our Sunday Lunch
Specials
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The Natchez Democrat
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The Natchez Democrat PEOPLE

C
SECTION

SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 1997

Tried and true traditions find Southern families

Natchez Literary Celebration
to explore real and fictional
families of the South

By JOAN GANDY

The Natchez Democrat

Kissing-cousin Southerners with their blood-is-thicker-than-water family traditions may have an edge on other Americans when times get tough.

That's the view of Dr. William Ferris, whose lecture, "Belonging: The Family in the South, An Overview," will introduce the 1997 Natchez Literary Celebration, May 29-31.

"Family has always been significant in the South," said Ferris, director of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi.

"Deeply rooted family traditions will help Southerners to face the whole complex world of 21st-century technology and mobility," he said.

Following the theme, "Families

Huxton and many contemporary cousins are related to "almost everybody who lived in Natchez before 1870," she said.

"When I was a little girl, there were 10 intermarriages in my family, quite a tangle of family relationships. I must say, though, that none of us was very famous other than William Dunbar and that was strictly regional."

Huxton's Dunbar relative was one of the exceptional scientists and thinkers of early Natchez. She and many cousins also are descended from Don Jose Vidal, for whom Vidalia, La., is named.

Huxton, whose Literary Celebration lecture is titled "Another Kind of Remembering: The

Dunbars, the Hendersons and the Sargents," for many years has been interested in the Southern family, especially in "what families tell each other and what they conceal."

Differences between Southern families and those in other parts of the country stem from several conditions, she said.

"In the U.S., we're still more or less a region. We keep up the



Mississippi writers win awards

Will accept at Natchez Literary Celebration on May 31

By JOAN GANDY

The Natchez Democrat

Mississippi writers Shelby Foote and Elizabeth Spencer have been named the 1997 Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award winners and will accept their medals at the Natchez Literary Celebration on May 31.

The announcement of this year's winners in fiction and non-fiction writing came from Dr. David G. Sansing, chairman of the nominating committee and former University of Mississippi history professor.

"The committee is delighted with our selections and equally thrilled that both Mr. Foote and Ms. Spencer will join us in Natchez for the conference," Sansing said.

"These are truly literary giants of their times whose works represent some of the best among Southern and even among all American writers," he said.

Foote, winning for his life's work in non-fiction, is best known for his monumental historical work, "The Civil War," three volumes written during a period of 20 years.

"Mr. Foote also has produced a fine body of fiction, but he became internationally acclaimed for his historical books after the 1991 PBS adaptation of the Civil War works," Sansing said.

Foote was born in Greenville in 1916. His writing career began



Shelby Foote

during his student days at the University of North Carolina, where he contributed to the school's literary journal.

"Ms. Spencer, our fiction winner, has written many highly successful novels and collections of short stories," Sansing said. "Many of her fans remember especially 'The Light in the Piazza,' a 1960 novel which was made into a popular movie by the same name in 1962."

Spencer is a native of Carrollton, where she completed high school in 1938. She went on to receive a bachelor's degree from Belhaven College in Jackson and a master's degree from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn.

"Her awards are numerous," Sansing said. "Her first novel, 'Fire in the Morning,' was a big success and by the time her second book was published, 'This Crooked Way,' Elizabeth Spencer was recognized with an award by the American Academy of Arts & Letters."

The 1997 winners of the Richard Wright awards join distinguished past winners, Sansing said. They are Eudora Welty, Margaret Walker Alexander, Willie Morris and Josephine Haxton.

The award honors the work of Natchez native Richard Wright,



Elizabeth Spencer

born in 1908, the son of a country school teacher and an uneducated share cropper.

"Black Boy," Wright's fictionalized autobiography, was published in 1945 and sold 400,000 copies in three months.

Wright's first novel, "Native Son," was published in 1940 and was an immediate success. After working in Chicago, Wright moved to Paris, where he died in 1960.

The Natchez Literary Celebration will open on May 29 and will feature more than a dozen scholarly lectures on the theme, "Famous Southern Families in Fact and in Fiction."

The three-day conference, which also includes a play, a film and two tours, will offer opportunities for participants at the conference to purchase books written by the lecturers and to have them autographed, Sansing said.

The Celebration, in its eighth year, is sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the Natchez National Historical Park.

Most events are free. The lowest cost tickets for tours and other entertainments are available at Natchez Box Office, 1-601-445-0353 or 1-800-862-3259.

Natchez Literary Celebration Theme: Southern Families in Fact and Fiction

Southern families with their tried-and-true traditions may have an edge on other American clans when times get tough.

That's the view of Dr. William Ferris, whose lecture, "Belonging: The Family in the South, An Overview," will introduce the 1997 Natchez Literary Celebration, May 29-31.

"Family has always been significant in the South," said Ferris, director of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi.

"Deeply rooted family traditions will help Southerners to

face the whole complex world of 21st century technology and mobility," Ferris said.

Following the theme, "Famous Southern Families in Fact and in Fiction," the Literary Celebration will host more than a dozen scholars whose topics will range from aristocrats to red-necks and from philosophers to poets—real and fictional.

The eighth annual Celebration will take place at The Natchez Hotel. Co-sponsors of the event are Copiah-Lincoln Community College, the Mississippi Department of

Archives and History, and the Natchez National Historical Park.

Since 1990, the conference has attracted thousands of people who are obviously hungry for reading, writing, and thinking, said Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln, co-chairman of the event.

"Nowhere else in the South is there such a conference with a truly diverse audience, racially mixed, of people of all ages and from all walks of life," Smith said. "The common bond is books."

Celebration Will Offer Tours

In addition to the many events of the Celebration, there will be two tours offered.

The first tour features three Natchez houses and a historic church, and will feature people and places connected with the literary world.

Houses on the literary tour will be the Bailey House, corner of South Commerce and Orleans Streets; the Barnes House, 705 Washington Street; and the Boone House, 508 Washington Street.

Also on the Literary Tour will be Trinity Episcopal Church, where an exhibit will show many members of the parish as writers and authors during the church's 175-year history.

Another tour will pull together family relationships among owners and occupants of these famous

Natchez houses—Melrose, Monmouth and Linden. Guides at those houses will tell about the relationship among families who lived at those houses for many generations. Most of the lecture series is free. Tours to buildings, homes, the play and the film are priced individually and at low cost.

"The Ponder Heart" presentation is \$10; the film \$5; the literary tour, \$50, which includes a reception and buffet supper at the Barnes House; "Next of Kin" tour, \$15; an evening with "literary giants," including Richard Wright Literary Award winners Shelby Foote and Elizabeth Spencer, \$10; and a closing reception, \$10.

Information about tickets is available at the Natchez Box Office, (601) 445-0353 or 1-800-863-3299.

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The eighth annual Natchez Literary Celebration
presents

Famous Southern Families in Fiction and in Fact

About Southern aristocrats, rebels and rednecks

- In the fiction of Eudora Welty and William Faulkner.
- In the real lives of the Longs of Louisiana, the Percys of Mississippi, the Lees of Virginia, and prominent Natchez families.

May 29-31, 1997
The Natchez Eola Hotel
Natchez, Mississippi



Free Daily Lectures
9 a.m.-4 p.m.

LOW COST RELATED EVENTS

- Program by Clifton Taulbert, James Autry, Shelby Foote, Elizabeth Spencer, May 31, 8 p.m. (\$10)
- Two tours of historic mansions, May 30 (\$50) and May 31 (\$15).
- The Eudora Welty play, *The Ponder Heart*, May 29 and May 30, 8:30 p.m. (\$10)
- The Clifton Taulbert movie, *Once Upon A Time When We Were Colored*, May 29 and May 30, 8:30 p.m. (\$10)
- Festive reception, May 31, 9:15 p.m. (\$10)
- Daily booksignings. (Free)

For tickets, call 601-445-0353 or 1-800-862-3259.

This program is partially funded by the Mississippi Humanities Council and is sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and the National Park Service.



The Eighth Annual
NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION
presents

"Literary Giants: An Evening to Remember."

Presentation of the
Richard Wright Literary
Excellence Awards to
Mr. Elizabeth Spencer
and Mr. Shelby Foote



Shelby Foote



Elizabeth Spencer

Saturday, May 31, 1997 • 8:00 p.m.

Seating is limited and available on a first come,
first serve basis. Tickets are only \$10 per person.
To order call (601)445-0353 or 1-800-862-3259

Wednesday, May 14, 1997

THE NATCHEZ OBSERVANCE, Natchez, Miss. • 6a

Tickets available for Garden District tour

By JAYNE CLARKE

The Natchez Preservation Trust is "Lurvy Landmarks in Natchez's Garden District" on 150 per person and are available at Natchez Box Office, 445-0353.

The ticket includes the guided tour and a "bushy supper" at the historic house," said Carolyn Wood Smith of Capital-Landmarks Community College, an extension of the Natchez Lurvy Colonization.

"Half of the ticket price is a donation to the Colonization and is tax deductible," Smith said. The ticket is now only \$10 to \$15 a person. Tickets will quickly when you pre-purchase, will cover three people.

The interest groups will lead groups to planned events beginning at different points on the walking

Sunday, May 31, 1997

tour.

"Groups will be in each house a specified amount of time with an hour at the historic house for the tour and supper," Smith said.

Options are the Spivey, two Blythe, Oak Street, Exchange Avenue, John McLemore and Station is located.

"Groups will stay together for the entire tour, and the tour goes in all a circle," Smith said.

The tour is one of several special events during the three-day history conference, May 29-31.

The Colonization, founded in 1793, is sponsored by Capital-Landmarks, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the Natchez National Historical Park.

More than a dozen specialty tours are on the program, with

backgrounds in The Natchez National Historical Park, and other events including a flower and

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Literary walking tour leads back to writers' homes

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By JOAN GANDY

The Natchez Democrat

Writers, publishers and famous people who became subjects of books will be highlights of a downtown walking tour during the 1997 Natchez Literary Celebration.

With three houses and a historic church as focal points, the May 30 tour will take participants along several blocks, including parts of Washington and South Commerce streets, said Joan McLemore, Copiah-Lincoln Community College librarian and organizer of the tour.

Through surveys of home and business owners and many hours of research, McLemore has discovered hundreds of names of Natchez literary figures whose

lives and works connect to downtown neighborhoods.

Stops on the guided tour will include the Bailey House at 400 S. Commerce St., a bed-and-breakfast inn owned by Mike and Lisa Brunetti, and Trinity

Episcopal Church, corner of Commerce and Washington, where a 175th-anniversary celebration is under way.

On Washington Street, stops will be at the Boone House, 508 Washington, home of Kenneth and Mary Lyman Boone and their family; and at the Barnes House, 705 Washington, home of Dr. Robert Barnes and Dr. Bettina Barnes.

In between these four stops, trained guides will tell about sites and buildings where writers and poets worked and famous literary figures visited, McLemore said.

"There is so much history here in addition to the literary history," she said.

"For instance, the famous historical figure Gen. John A. Quitman was a prominent member of Trinity Episcopal Church, and he has been the subject of several books, including the award-winning biography by Dr. Robert May."

Moving into parallel and connecting streets increases the famous names considerably, McLemore said.

"John Henderson, James Street, D. Clayton James, Stark Young, Edgar Simmons, William Johnson, Joseph B. Stratton, Leighton McDonald, Harriet Kane — these are a few who come to mind quickly," McLemore said.

James Street wrote "The Biscuit Eater" at 502 S. Union Street, she said. "And not far away on State Street is the home of the famous diarist William Johnson, who wrote great social history of antebellum Natchez."

Tours of the three houses will include information about connections to books and literary figures.

The Barnes House has been featured in numerous books on architecture and gardens, said Carolyn Vance Smith, co-chairman of the annual literary conference.

"And it will be in that beautiful garden setting that guests on the tour will have a buffet supper as part of the package," Smith said.

The Barnes House was built in 1836 by E.P. Fourniquet, a Natchez developer. Owners in the 1890s added a wing and side bay windows to the four original rooms of the house.

Another addition in the 1960s by the Barnes family brought the house to its present form.

One item in the house from ownership by the Sam Abbott family is said to have been a gift from actor Clark Gable.

"The interior of the house is a treat to see with all the beautiful furnishings in the family's collection," Smith said. "But people always go away from this house with exclamations about how delightful the gardens are."

Many connections to literary figures enhance the history of the Boone House, Smith said, including the ownership of the property by Peter Isler, a printer and publisher in early Natchez.

"And today, of course, the house is home to the publisher of our daily newspaper," Smith said.

Sometimes called the Quegles House because of the early ownership by Joseph

Quegles, the home at 508 Washington subsequently was owned in the 19th century by families such as Proffitt and Brandon before it was purchased by photographer Henry C. Newman in 1891.

Newman has been

the subject of three books about his work in Natchez.

Several generations of Judge William T. Martin's family lived in the house throughout the 20th century.

Family stories among members of the Martin family place the famous ornithologist John James Audubon in the house during his years in Natchez.

"One member of the family quotes relatives that Audubon painted in a second-floor studio of the back brick building on the property," Smith said. "Everyone is familiar with Audubon's great books."

At the Bailey House, connections to the literary world include past owners and the present owner.

Smith pointed out members of the Bailey family who are authors, including the late Freddie Bailey, whose popular recipe books are among regional favorites.

"And Freddie's nephew, Lee Bailey, has written outstanding food and entertaining books such as the one featuring many of the antebellum Natchez houses."

Lisa Brunetti, an owner today of the big Victorian-style Bailey House, is an artist who has illustrated more than a dozen books, including several by the famous Louisiana horticulturalist Jo Evans.

At Trinity Church, an exhibit will provide information on parishioners with literary connections, Smith said.

"Without very much sleuthing at all, we've come up with many books linked to members of Trinity."

Varina Howell, wife of Confederate President Jefferson Davis, was a member, Smith said. "And she wrote the definitive two-volume biography of her husband."

The tour and the exhibit at Trinity Church were natural outgrowths of the Natchez Literary Celebration, Smith said.

"Natchez has for decades been known for its architecture, furnishings, gardens and history," she said. "It has been known for its importance on the Mississippi River and as a place where famous people have stopped."

The decision to take a pretty neighborhood and look for literary connections paid off, she said.

"Now we will have another angle from which to view our famous city."



LITERARY LANDMARKS: Top, Trinity Episcopal Church, will be the last stop of an exhibit on parishioners with literary connections; In main photo, Mary Lyman Boone flips through a book by artist John James Audubon, who once lived in her house on Washington Street. Above the gardens of the Barnes House in many books, will be the site of buffet in the Bailey House will be one of many rooms visited during the tour.

Opinion

Tuesday, May 19, 1998

The Natchez Democrat

Library event coincides with literary fest

A special open house will be held at the Judge George W. Armstrong Library on Saturday afternoon, June 6, from 4 to 6 p.m. in conjunction with the Natchez Literary Celebration.

The open house is sponsored by the Friends of the Armstrong Library and the Board of Trustees of the Armstrong Library. This is a time for the people of Natchez and surrounding areas to come to visit the library, to meet and converse with visitors to the Natchez area who have come to attend the Literary Celebration, and to honor one of our local authors as well.

Greg Iles will be the guest of honor for the open house. He will be available to sign copies of his books so if you have a copy bring it along or plan to purchase a copy while you are here.

Greg has had great success as a fiction writer. His current three books were first published in hardback and all have now been printed as paperbacks as well. These titles are "Spandau Phoenix" published in 1993; "Black Cross" published in 1995; and "Mortal Fear" published in 1997. It is exciting to see his books in newsstands in airports and in bookstores around the coun-



Top of the Morning

Margaret Wesley

try. His fans are looking forward to book four due out this year.

The good news is that he has others in progress.

A second major feature of the open house will be a collection of early oil paintings of landscape scenes of the south. These paintings, part of the collection of Logan Sewell of Vidalia, depict the growth of land use in the early south. Most of our residents have never seen the paintings, so it will be a rare treat for us all. Mr. Sewell promises a variety of scenes will be available for this special viewing.

Also being featured at the open house will be the Scharff collection of early Natchez

prints.

The prints are on permanent loan to the library from the Natchez Historical Society. Normally housed in the genealogy/local history area, the prints will be on display around the library. The prints were collected by Col. Maurice R. Scharff.

Colonel Scharff was the son of Morris and Rosa Roos Scharff of Natchez. He was born in Natchez in 1888. He spent his youth in Natchez, attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and served as a licensed Professional Engineer in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and New York. The collection of prints and drawings depict Natchez and surrounding areas during the French regime, 1716-1763. Colonel Scharff made a gift of the prints to the Natchez Historical Society. He died in 1967.

Come visit your library and take part in a special event featuring the literature and landscapes of the south.

The food will be great and the company even better.

Come to enjoy the festivities at your local library on Saturday, June 6, 4 to 6 p.m.

Margaret Wesley is a board member of the Friends of the Library.

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The Eighth Annual
Natchez Literary Celebration
presents



"Literary Landmarks in the Natchez Garden District"

A guided walking tour with visits inside the private historic homes Bailey house, Boone house, Barnes house as well as the 175 year old Trinity Episcopal Church; exhibits and Gala Courtyard Reception/Buffer at Barnes House.

Tickets \$50

(Note: \$25 of the Literary Landmarks ticket price is tax deductible.)

For ticket information call
(601) 445-0353 or 1-800-862-3259

2A • THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT, Natchez, Miss.

Tuesday, May 20, 1997

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MISSISSIPPI

Events

■ Natchez Literary Celebration, May 29-31, Natchez. Conference centered on literature, history and culture. Theme is "Famous Southern Families in Fiction and Fact." Free. Natchez Eola Hotel. Contact Copiah-Lincoln Community College, 446-1208 or 1-800-862-3259.

■ Indian River State College

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The Eighth Annual NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION *presents*



Famous Southern Families in Fiction and in Fact

An Olympic Award - winning conference devoted to
Literature • History • Arts • Culture

May 29 - 31, 1997

The Natchez EOLA Hotel • Natchez, Mississippi

FREE Events

Lectures about aristocrats, rebels and rednecks...

☛ In the fiction of EUDORA WELTY and WILLIAM FAULKNER

☛ In the real lives of the LONGs of Louisiana,
the PERCYs of Mississippi, the LEES of Virginia,
and prominent Natchez families

Low - Cost Tickets for Individual Events

☛ Tours of historic mansions

☛ The Eudora Welty play, *The Ponder Heart*, May 29 and 30 - \$10

☛ The Clifton Taubert movie,

Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored, May 29 and 30 - \$5

☛ Literary Landmark Tour with Dinner, May 30 - \$50

☛ "Next of Kin" Tour, May 31 - \$15

☛ "Literary Giants" Evening, May 31 - \$10

☛ Reception, May 31 - \$10

☛ Festive social events and booksignings

☛ Tickets for all events - \$100

☛ All tickets plus four nights at downtown hotel (double occupancy)
and 11 meals (Dinner May 28 - Breakfast - June 1) - \$395

For tickets, call 401-445-0353 or 1-800-862-3259

*This project is partially funded by a grant from the Mississippi Humanities Council
and is sponsored by Capital - Lincoln Community College.*

the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the National Book Center



William Winter to serve as NLC Master of Ceremonies

Former Mississippi Governor WILLIAM WINTER, of Jackson, will serve as Master of Ceremonies for the Natchez Literary Celebration for the eighth year in a row.

Photo submitted.

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Writers and Scholars from across the country will convene in Natchez

1997 Natchez Literary Celebration

Famous Southern families will be "cussed and discussed" at the eighth annual *Natchez Literary Celebration* May 29 - 31, says conference co-chairman Carolyn Vance Smith.

"From the Lees of Virginia to the Longs of Louisiana, from the Ponders in Eudora Welty's fiction to the Snopeses in William Faulkner's, we'll learn a lot about real and fictitious families," she said.

The theme of the 1997 event is "Famous Southern Families in Fiction and in Fact," Smith said. Speakers are writers and scholars from across the country, many of whom are famous in their own right. "They will discuss individual Southern families as well as groups of Southerners from rednecks to aristocrats," she said.

To take place in the historic river city of Natchez, Mississippi, with headquarters at The Natchez EOLA Hotel, the 1997 Celebration is a three-day conference which annually explores the literature, history and culture of the Deep South. Co-sponsors are Copiah - Lincoln Community College, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the Natchez National Historic Park.

"Enhancements to the lecture series are tours to historic mansions, a performance of Miss Welty's *The Ponder Heart*, a showing of the four-star film version of *Once Upon a Time...*, custom booksigning parties and gala social events," Smith said.

Speakers include:

~Clifton Taulbert of Tulsa, Oklahoma, a Mississippi native who is the prize-winning author of *Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored* and *Last Train North*.

~James Autry of Des Moines, Iowa, author of two acclaimed volumes of poetry and writer of such best-selling non-fiction books as *Concessions of an Accidental Businessman* and *Love & Profit: The Art of Caring Leadership*.

~Will D. Campbell of Mt. Juleit, Tennessee, formerly of Mississippi, prize-winning author of *Providence*, *Brother to a Dragonfly* and *Forty Acres and a Goat*.

~Ellen Douglas of Jackson, Mississippi, author of *A Family's Affairs*, *Apostles of Light* and other novels, all of which have won literary awards.

~Bethany Bultman of New Orleans, author of dozens of articles in national magazines and several books, including a runaway best seller, *Redriek Heaven*.

~Kenneth W. Holditch of The University of New Orleans, program director of the New Orleans Literary Festival and an authority on William Faulkner.

~Glen Jeansonne of the University of Wisconsin, author of *Messiah of the Masses: Huey P. Long*.

~Robert B. Remini of The University of Illinois at Chicago, the nation's leading authority on Andrew Jackson and Henry Clay.

~Patrick Samway, S.J., of New York, literary editor of *America* and author of a new biography, *Walker Percy: A Life*.

~Noel Polk of the University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, author and editor of numerous works about Eudora Welty.

~William Ferris, director of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at The University of Mississippi, Oxford, and editor of *The Encyclopedia of Southern Culture*.

~Jason R. Buchtel of New Orleans, producer of the film *Of Dining and Dynasties: A Documentary* which reveals the families behind the New Orleans restaurants, Antoine's Galatoire's and Commander's Palace.

Winners of the 1997 RICHARD WRIGHT LITERARY EXCELLENCE AWARD are Elizabeth Spencer and Shelby Foote, who will be present to receive their awards.

"Most of the lecture series is free, with tours to historic homes and buildings, the film, the play and social events priced individually at low cost," Smith said. Tickets are available by calling Natchez Box Office, 1-800-862-3259. Complete ticket packages cost \$100, with a special package at \$395 which includes all tickets, four nights' housing in a downtown hotel and 11 meals, May 28 - June 1.



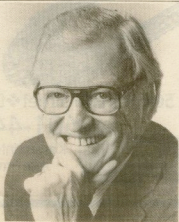
Famous Mississippi writers **William Faulkner** and **Eudora Welty**, shown here in 1962, will be featured in lectures and a play at the eighth annual *Natchez Literary Celebration*, May 29 - 31, 1997. The theme of the conference is "Famous Southern Families in Fiction and in Fact." Both Faulkner and Welty made their families famous and created fictional families which likewise became famous.

Photo submitted.



Dr. Robert Remini, a favorite lecturer by many, will once again return to Natchez on May 29 to participate in the 1997 *Natchez Literary Celebration*.

► Dr. Robert Remini

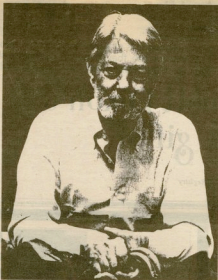


Natchez Digest May, 1997

1997
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► **Shelby Foote**
will receive the
1997 **RICHARD**
WRIGHT
LITERARY
EXCELLENCE
AWARD
for non - fiction
at the *Natchez*
Literary
Celebration on
May 31.



◀ The **RICHARD**
WRIGHT
LITERARY
EXCELLENCE
AWARD for
fiction will be
awarded to
Elizabeth
Spencer at the
1997 *Natchez*
Literary
Celebration on
May 31.

Photos submitted.

Say Thanks...

Did you have a teacher that made a difference in your life? This would be a great time to call that special teacher and express your gratitude for helping mold you into the wonderful person you've become!

It will make your teacher very, very happy!

The DIGEST just loves teachers!

We know you do, too!



Richard Wright Literary Award Winners Named

Mississippi writers Shelby Foote and Elizabeth Spencer have been named the 1997 Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award winners and will accept their medals at the Natchez Literary Celebration on May 31.

The announcement of this year's winners in fiction and non-fiction writing came from Dr. David G. Sansing, chairman of the nominating committee and former University of Mississippi history professor.

"The committee is delighted with our selections and equally thrilled that both Mr. Foote and Ms. Spencer will join us in Natchez for the conference," Sansing said.

"These are truly literary giants of their times whose works represent some of the best among Southern and even among all American writers," he said.

Foote, winning for his life's work in non-fiction, is best known for his monumental historical work, "The Civil War," three volumes written during a period of 20 years.

"Mr. Foote also has produced a fine body of fiction, but he became internationally acclaimed for his historical books after the 1991 PBS adaptation of the Civil War works," Sansing said.

Foote was born in Greenville in 1916. His writing career began during his student days at the University of North Carolina, where he contributed to the school's literary journal.

"Ms. Spencer, our fiction winner, has written many highly successful novels and collections of short stories," Sansing said. "Many of her fans remember especially 'The Light in the Piazza,' a 1960 novel which was made into a popular movie by the same name in 1962."

Spencer is a native of Carrollton, where she completed high school in 1938. She went on to receive a bachelor's degree from Belhaven College in Jackson and a master's degree from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn.

"Her awards are numerous," Sansing said. "Her first novel, 'Fire in the Morning,' was a success and by the time her second book was published, 'This Crooked Way,' Elizabeth Spencer was recognized with an award by the American Academy of Arts & Letters."

The 1997 winners of the Richard Wright awards join distinguished past winners, Sansing said. They are Eudora Welty, Margaret Walker Alexander, Willie Morris and Josephine Haxton.

The award honors the work of Natchez native Richard Wright, born in 1908, the son of a country school teacher and an illiterate share cropper.

"Black Boy," Wright's fictionalized autobiography, was published in 1940 and was an immediate success. After working in Chicago, Wright moved to Paris, where he died in 1960.

The Natchez Literary Celebration will open on May 29 and will feature more than a dozen scholarly lectures on the theme, "Famous Southern Families in Fact and in Fiction."

The three-day conference, which also includes a play, a film and two tours, will offer opportunities for participants at the conference to purchase books written by the lecturers and to have them autographed, Sansing said.

The Celebration, in its eighth year, is sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the Natchez National Historical Park.

Most events are free. The low-cost tickets for tours and other entertainment are available at Natchez Box Office, 1-601-445-0353 or 1-800-862-3259.

Natchez Desert May 1997

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page 26



The Eighth Annual
Natchez Literary Celebration
 presents

"Famous Southern Families in Fiction and in Fact"

May 29 - May 31

The Natchez Eola Hotel • Natchez, Mississippi



THURSDAY, MAY 29, 1997

9:00 a.m. "Families in the South," William Ferris

10:30 a.m. "The Jacksons, the Donelsons, the Clays," Robert V. Remini

1:00 p.m. "The Dunbars, the Hendersons, the Surgetts of Mississippi," Ellen Douglas

1:45 p.m. "Black and White Families with Robert E. Lee," Marie Tyler-McGraw

3:00 p.m. "Eudora Welty's Families," Noel Polk

5:30 - 7:00 p.m. Reception for Carolyn Vance Smith, sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln

8:30 p.m. Choice of "The Ponder Heart," (\$10 ticket) Natchez Little Theatre OR the film *Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored*, (\$5 ticket) Eola Hotel



FRIDAY, MAY 30, 1997

9:00 a.m. "The Percys," Patrick Samway

10:30 a.m. "The Longs of Louisiana," Glen Jeansonne

1:00 p.m. "Faulkner's Families" Kenneth Holditch

2:30 p.m. "New Orleans Restaurant Families," Jason Buchtel

5:00 - 8:00 p.m. (\$50 ticket) Tour of Bailey House, Boone House, Barnes House and Trinity Episcopal Church, with reception/buffet

8:30 p.m. Choice of the play "The Ponder Heart," (\$10 ticket) or the film "Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored," (\$5 ticket)



SATURDAY, MAY 31, 1997

9:00 a.m. "Redneck Heaven," Bethany Ewald Bultman

10:30 a.m. "Providence," Will Campbell

2:00 p.m. "The Turners, Quitmans, McMurrans, Conners of Natchez," Kathleen McClain Jenkins

3:00 - 6:00 p.m. (\$15 ticket) Tour of Melrose, Monmouth and Linden with refreshments

8:00 p.m. (\$10 ticket) Richard Wright Literary Excellence Awards to Elizabeth Spencer and Shelby Foote and "Quilted Together: Writer and Poet," Clifton Taulbert and James A. Autry
 9:15 p.m. (\$10 ticket) Booksignings and Reception, sponsored by Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American Culture at the Historic Natchez Foundation



For Tickets call (601) 445-0353 or 1-800-862-3259

sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the National Park Service. Partially funded by the Mississippi Humanities Council.

(Clip and save this schedule)

*Also, Natchez Democrat - 5-15-97
 Bluff City Post 5/23 - 6/13/97*

**CLIFTON TAULBERT
ONE OF MANY
HEADLINERS AT
1997 NATCHEZ
LITERARY
CELEBRATION**

Renowned Mississippi author Clifton Taulbert will be among the stellar line-up of scholars speaking at the 1997 Natchez Literary Celebration, May 29-31, 1997, at The Natchez Eola Hotel.

Taulbert, best known for his books "The Last Train North" and "Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored," was born in the delta community of Glen Allen, where he was reared by his great-grandparents and a great aunt.

Those caring relatives provided a "safe place" for him to dream and develop his aspirations, Taulbert has said. Today Taulbert is lauded as a businessman, teacher, speaker and writer.

His latest book, "Watching Our Crops Come In," was released earlier this year by Viking and will be available at the Literary Celebration book store. The book is based on Taulbert's own memories of the turbulent South in the 1950s and 1960s.

The Literary Celebration also will present a showing of the film version of Taulbert's "Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored," a highly acclaimed novel starring Phylicia Rashad, Al Freeman Jr. and Polly Bergen.

Taulbert will appear at the Celebration during the closing evening, billed as "Literary Giants: An Evening to Remember." He will speak along with fellow Mississippian James A. Autry, a poet and founder of the Des Moines National Poetry Festival.

Reminiscing about their boyhoods in Mississippi, Taulbert and Autry will speak on the topic, "Quilted Together: The Writer and the Poet Come Home to Mississippi."

That same evening, May 31, also will include the presentation of the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award to two other distinguished writers born in Mississippi Shelby Foote and Elizabeth Spencer.

The Literary Celebrations sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the Natchez National Historical Park. The theme for the 1997 conference is "Famous Southern Families in Fiction and in Fact."



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The Eighth Annual Natchez Literary Celebration presents

"Famous Southern Families in Fiction and in Fact"

May 29 - 31, 1997, The Natchez Eola Hotel, Natchez, Mississippi

THURSDAY, MAY 29, 1997

9:00 a.m. "Families in the South," William Ferris
10:30 a.m. "The Jacksons, the Donelsons, the Clays," Robert V. Remini
1:00 p.m. "The Dunbars, the Hendersons, the Surgets of Mississippi," Ellen Douglas
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8:30 p.m. Choice of "The Ponder Heart," (\$10 ticket) Natchez Little Theatre OR the film "Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored," (\$5 ticket) Eola Hotel

FRIDAY, MAY 30, 1997

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(Clip and save this schedule)

SATURDAY, MAY 31, 1997

9:00 a.m. "Redneck Heaven," Bethany Ewald Bullman
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9:15 p.m. (\$10 ticket) Booksignings and Reception, sponsored by Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American Culture at the Historic Natchez Foundation



For Tickets call (601) 445-0353 or 1-800-862-3259
sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College,
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
and the National Park Service. Partially funded by
the Mississippi Humanities Council.

6A • THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT, Natchez, Miss.

Friday, May 23, 1997



The Eighth Annual Natchez Literary Celebration presents

The Ponder Heart

by Eudora Welty

The Natchez Little Theatre
May 29th and May 30th
at 8:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 and seating is limited.
For ticket information call
(601)445-0353 or 1-800-862-3259



related Natchez houses

By JOAN GANDY

The Natchez Democrat

Lush living among prominent Natchezians in the 19th century loses some luster when viewed along with the sorrows and sufferings those families endured.

In a different kind of antebellum house tour on May 31, 3-6 p.m., Natchez Literary Celebration participants will learn how four well-to-do families lived and intermingled through several generations, binding their kinship through marriages, births, deaths, business partnerships emotional dependence and social activities.

The three historic houses, Linden, Melrose and Monmouth, were homes to the Corner, McMurrans, Quitman and Turner families.

At Linden, some Corner furniture and art objects enhance the story of family members who have lived there, said Jeanette Feltus, whose children are the sixth generation of Corners to occupy the house.

"We have Jane Corner's wedding veil, which other brides in the family have worn over the years," Feltus said.

"And we have portraits and photographs of many different generations of Corners, including portraits of Jane and her husband, who had died just before she bought Linden."

At Monmouth, general manager Jim Anderson said some of John A. Quitman's possessions are on view there and help to tell the story of his home.

"There's the bed he died in, his sword and things such as that," he said.

The Monmouth tour also includes information about extensive restoration undertaken by the present owners in recent years, he said.

The three houses are open to the public on a daily basis. Melrose is part of the Natchez National Historical Park. Monmouth as a house museum and bed-and-breakfast inn owned by Ron and Lani Riches of Los Angeles and Natchez, and Linden as a house museum and bed-and-breakfast inn owned by the Feltus family.

The 19th-century families who moved into these three houses were next-door neighbors, said Thom Rosenblum, curator of the historic house Melrose. "But their proximity to one another was only one facet of the close relationships," he said.

"And you have to look back to the highly respected Judge Edward Turner, who was the real head of the family, to get the whole picture of who these people were," Rosenblum said.

Turner's daughter Mary Louisa married John McMurrans; they lived at Melrose by 1849.

Turner's daughter Fanny married Lemuel Corner, whose mother, Jane, bought Linden in 1849.

Turner's niece and ward, Eliza, married John A. Quitman, the famous general and Mississippi governor. They lived at Monmouth, which he purchased in 1826.



Cousins attended private school together at Monmouth. They shared the family names, with many Elizas, Edwards and John Anthonys showing up in the family tree.

Relationships further drew close with the marriage of Mary Elizabeth McMurrans to Farar Corner.

"The cousins knew each other from infancy," Rosenblum said. "They had pet names for each other."

Correspondence among relatives as they grew old together showed they had true and enduring affection for one another, Rosenblum said.

Setting the stage for the tour, Kathleen McClain Jenkins will give an illustrated lecture to Literary Celebration participants.

"Next of Kin - the Turners, the Quitmans, the McMurrans, the Corners: An Intimate Glimpse into the Households of Four Historically Prominent Natchez Families."

Jenkins, museum specialist for the National Park Service at Melrose, will speak at 2 p.m. on May 31 at The Natchez Inn Hotel, headquarters for the three-day Celebration.

Jenkins' lecture is free. The tour requires a \$15 ticket, which does not include transportation but does include refreshments at one of the houses.

Life for these families reached a pinnacle during the 1850s, Jenkins said.

"However, the next generation paid for their inheritance of plantation slavery with

See FAMILIES, Page 6C



Natchez Little Theater stages in conjunction with Literary

By TERRI TABOR
The Natchez Democrat

Murder and marriage will be at the heart of Natchez Little Theatre's upcoming production.

"The Ponder Heart," based on the title novel by Mississippi writer Eudora Welty will hit the stage Wednesday in conjunction with the Natchez Literary Celebration.

The story centers around the established and respected Ponder family who live in the fictitious town of Clay in Northeast Mississippi.

"The families involved are typical Southern families," says director Elizabeth Boggus.

The family is in upheaval when Uncle Daniel Ponder enters into a trial marriage with a younger woman who does not have the proper social upbringing. Things take a turn for the worse when Uncle Daniel is accused of murdering his bride.

"It's a comedy in nature. It's a very interesting entertainment."

The three-act play member cast.

"The cast is doing so well."

Most of the story makes for an interesting entertainment.

The sets and lighting are excellent.

"The Ponder Heart" through Saturday with June 1.

The production is a Natchez Literary celebration will be



The Natchez Democrat, June 1, 1997



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The Natchez Literary Celebration**When Next of Kin
Meant Next Door****a Tour Featuring
Linden, Melrose, and Monmouth**
(Refreshments at Linden)**3-6 p.m., Saturday, May 31, 1997**NOTE: Houses may be visited in any order.
Transportation is NOT included.

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The Natchez Literary Celebration*The Ponder Heart***8:30 p.m., Friday, May 30, 1997****The Natchez Little Theatre**
Linton Avenue

Sunday, May 25, 1997

THE NACHEZ DEMOCRAT, Natchez, Miss. • 9A

Natchez Little Theatre
*announces***"The Ponder
Heart"****By: Eudora Welty**
Directed by: Elizabeth Boggess**Wed., May 28 -Sun., June 1**
8PM Reception
8:30PM Curtain Nightly
Sunday Matinee 2:30PM**Natchez Little Theatre**
Corner of Linton & Maple

For more information call 442-2233



5/21/29

Monday, May 26, 1997

8A • THE NACHEZ DEMOCRAT, Natchez, Miss.

N • A • T • C • H • E • Z

BOXOFFICE

For Tickets & Reservations

Tickets Now Available

1997

**Natchez Literary
Celebration**

May 29-31

Canal Street Depot
Corner of Canal & State Streets
1-800-647-3259 • 1-601-445-0353

1997 page 31



The Eighth Annual
Natchez Literary Celebration
presents



*"When Next of Kin Meant
Next Door: Three Natchez
Suburban Estates"*



A neighborhood tour of the significant
houses Melrose, Monmouth and
Linden, the Historic Homes of the
Turners, the Quitmans, the McMurrans
and the Conners, with refreshments.



Tickets \$15

Transportation not included.

For ticket information call

(601)445-0353 or 1-800-862-3259

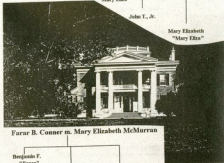
Melrose

John T. McMurrin m. Mary Louisa Turner

Mary Eliza

John T., Jr.

Mary Elizabeth
"Mary Eliza"



Farar B. Conner m. Mary Elizabeth McMurrin

Benjamin F.
"Facer"

Mary Louisa
"Sondie"

John McMurrin
"Johndie"

John T. McMurrin, Jr. m. Alice L. Austen
"Allie"

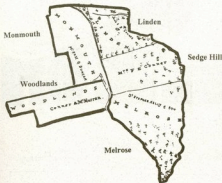
Mary Louisa

Carrie

Alie

Turners - Quitmans - McMurrans - Conners

The Households of Four Historically Prominent
Natchez Families



Natchez National Historical Park
National Park Service



The Eighth Annual
Natchez Literary Celebration
presents



The Award-Winning Film,

*Once Upon a Time When
We Were Colored*

Based on Mr. Clifton Taulbert's
Memoirs of the same name.

Tickets are \$5 and seating is limited.

For ticket information call
(601)445-0353 or 1-800-862-3259

Tuesday, May 27, 1997

THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT, Natchez, Miss. • 5A

5-28-97

People



**Literary
Celebration begins
in Natchez**

Page 1C

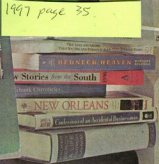
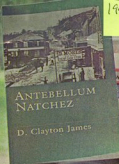
Natchez Democrat

Serving Natchez, Vidalia and the Miss-Lou

Natchez, Mississippi

1997 page 34

Beyond



Natchez Literary Celebration brings fictional and famous families back to life

By JOAN GANDY
The Natchez Democrat

The eighth annual Natchez Literary Celebration opens at 9 a.m. Thursday at The Natchez Eola Hotel, beginning three days of lectures, tours and exhibits related to famous Southern families both fictional and real.

Sponsors of the Celebration are Copiah-Lincoln Community College, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the Natchez National Historical Park.

Organizers have worked behind the scenes for the past year to schedule the tightly packed conference and bring to it some of the country's most renowned experts in Southern literature, said Bob Dodson, superintendent of the National Park Service and a co-chairman of the 1997 Celebration. "It takes a great effort to put on such a fine program as we have each year, and the National Park Service is proud to be a part of it," Dodson said.

Founded by Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln, the Celebration receives community-wide volunteer and financial support necessary to its success, Dodson said.

For the National Park Service, sponsorship of the conference is an ideal match with the Natchez park's mission, he said.

The first Natchez Literary Celebration was held in 1990 in connection with the dedication of the historic house Melrose as part of the Natchez National Historical Park.

"From the very first, the park at Natchez has been dedicated to supporting community activities," said Dodson.

"So the literary conference gave us a good chance to do that and at the same time to benefit the park tremendously," he said.

The conference each year provides historical texts which enhance research under way at the Natchez park, Dodson said.

What's more, the Literary Celebration has fostered relationships between the Park Service and authors who have spoken at the conference.

"Now, we can pick up the phone and call some of these world-class scholars when we have questions on some historical point," Dodson said.

"They are very generous in sharing their expertise with us."

Natchez park historians are sharing their own research to enhance the 1997 conference.

"Our folks have provided research about the families and houses on the Saturday tour," Dodson said, referring to the three-house tour of Linden, Melrose and Monmouth, where stories of Turner, Quimman, McMurren and Conner families will be told.

Many Natchez park staffers work behind the scenes far in advance of the Celebration, he said.

"And we provide funds for printing costs and for shuttling speakers to and from airports."

Another important support provided through the National Park Service is the bookstore set up each year at the conference by Eastern National.

"Eastern National is a 'cooperating association' which supports the educational programs of the Park Service nationwide," Dodson said.

"It's a private entity and can contribute money to the celebration which can be used for matching grant money."

Eastern National has the financial capability of coming in and setting up the customized bookstore for only three days, a "great service to those attending the conference as it offers all the books of the authors speaking each year," Dodson said.

Most of the Natchez Literary Celebration lectures are free, due in part to a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities through the Mississippi Humanities Council. Low-cost events such as tours and evening programs range from \$5 to \$15 per person.

A literary tour of downtown Natchez on Friday is \$30 and includes a guide, a buffet supper and an exhibit. Half of the ticket price is tax-deductible. Tickets are available at Natchez Box Office, 445-0353.



The Natchez Democrat/State Times

CELEBRATION

TIME: The Natchez Literary Celebration begins Thursday with lectures, tours, book signings and more. In main photo books from the visiting authors are pictured. Also pictured at Melrose are Debra Cowart and Ethel Austin who head up the custom bookshop for the conference and Bob Dodson a co-chairman of the Literary Celebration.

1997 Literary Celebration Schedule of Events

Thursday

9 a.m. "Belonging: The Family is the South, An Overview," by Dr. William Ferris, director, The Center for the Study of Southern Culture, the University of Mississippi

10:30 a.m. "Three Great Southern Families: The Jacksons, the Donelsons, the Clays," by Dr. Robert V. Remini, professor of history emeritus, the University of Illinois

1 p.m. "Another Kind of Remembering: The Dunbars, the Hendersons and the Surveys of Adams County, Mississippi," by Ellen Douglas (Josephine Haxton), author, of Jackson

1:45 p.m. "Black and White Families at Arlington House, the Robert E. Lee Memorial Mansion," by Dr. Marie Tyler-McGraw, historian, National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

3 p.m. "The Families of Eudora Welty's Fiction," by Dr. Noel Polk, professor of English, University of Southern Mississippi

5:30-7 p.m. Reception honoring Carolyn Vance Smith, who is retiring as a teacher and director of public relations at Copiah-Lincoln

8:30 p.m. Choice of:
• "The Ponder Heart" by Eudora Welty, presented by the Natchez Little Theatre, Lorton Avenue

or
• "Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored," an award-winning film based on the

memoirs of Clifton Taulbert

Friday

9 a.m. "William Alexander Percy and Walker Percy: Writers of the South," by Dr. Patrick Sarnway, literary editor of the magazine "America," New York City

10:30 a.m. "The Longs of Louisiana," by Dr. Glen Jeanson, professor of history, University of Wisconsin

1 p.m. "Aristocrats, Rebels and Radicals: Faulkner's Families in Fact and Fiction," by Dr. Kenneth Holdich, professor of English emeritus, University of New Orleans

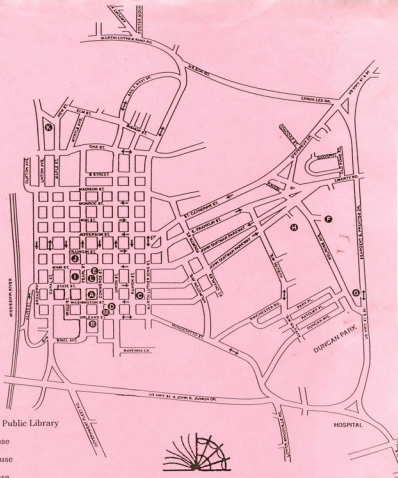
2:30 p.m. "Of Dining and Dynasties: The Families Behind Antoine's, Commander's Palace and Galatoire's Restaurants in New Orleans," by Jason Buchtel, founder, The Southern Film Institute Inc., New Orleans

5-8 p.m. "Literary Landmarks in Natchez's Garden District," a guided walking tour with visits inside Bailey House, Barnes House, Boone House and Trinity Episcopal Church, including supper at Barnes House and exhibit at the church

8:30 p.m. Choice of:
• "The Ponder Heart" by Eudora Welty, presented by the Natchez Little Theatre, Lorton Avenue

or
• "Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored," the award-winning film based on the

Continued on page 3C



The Natchez Literary Celebration

May 29-31, 1997

- A Armstrong Public Library
- B Bailey House
- C Barnes House
- D Boone House
- E Historic Natchez Foundation
- F Linden
- G Melrose
- H Monmouth
- I Museum of the Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American Culture
- J The Natchez Eola Hotel
- K The Natchez Little Theatre
- L Stratton Chapel Gallery
- M Trinity Episcopal Church

Not Democrat
5-29-97

Literary Landmarks

Literary Celebration, Sheriff's Rodeo this weekend

By JAMIE O'BEIRNE
The Natchez Democrat

From aristocrats to rebels to red-necks, the Eighth Annual Natchez Literary Celebration is ready.

And Carolyn Vance Smith couldn't be more excited.

"Everything is coming together," said Smith. "It's an amazing volunteer effort."

"We are expecting a full house. Only a dozen tickets remain for Saturday night's 'Literary Giants: An Evening to Remember' and

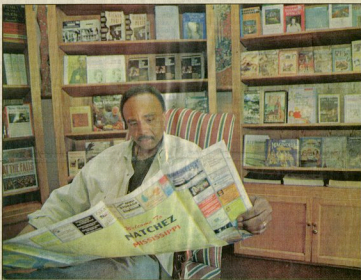
the 'Literary Landmark' walking tour on Friday," Smith said.

The festival will begin at 9 a.m. today and run through Saturday night. Most of the events are held at the Natchez Eola Hotel and are free of charge.

See CELEBRATION, Page 10A



What to do



The Natchez Democrat/Laura Skelton

CELEBRATING LITERATURE: Clifton Taulbert sits in front of the Literary Celebration's book store area where books by and about speakers and topics will be for sale in the Natchez Eola Hotel this weekend. Mr. Taulbert will be speaking during the celebration and the film, "Once Upon A Time When We Were Colored," based on Mr. Taulbert's memoirs of the same name will also be shown. Some of the books on the shelves are either by or about such authors as Walker Percy and Eudora Welty.

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The Natchez Democrat

Thursday, May 29, 1997

Serving Natchez, Vidalia and the Miss-Lou

Natchez, Mississippi

50

See previous page Celebration

Continued from Page 1A

In addition to the presentations at the Hotel, two walking tours, two films, a theatrical production, and the presentation of the Richard Wright Award will all be part of the weekend.

This year's festival will play host to such renowned figures as Ellen Douglas, Will D. Campbell, Anthony Euclid Robinson, Dr. Noel Polk and Dr. Patrick Sawyer, S.J.

"We are flattered that so many famous writers, historians, and scholars have agreed to be on our program," Smith said. "People tell me this year's line-up is the best

ever."

The highlight of the weekend will be the presentation of the Richard Wright Award to writers Elizabeth Spencer and Shelby Steele. The presentation will be held at 8 p.m. on Saturday and tickets are \$10.

Tickets for the "Literary Landmark Tour" on Friday are \$20.

In conjunction with the festival, the Natchez Little Theater is running "The Ponder Heart" based on a Flanders Sibly novel. The play opened Thursday and will run through Sunday. Tickets are \$10. For information call 442-2233.

For additional information concerning the festival call 442-0353.

This weekend the Ninth Annual Adams County Sheriff's Rodeo

will be held beginning at 8 nightly Saturday and Sunday at the Adams County Fairgrounds in Liberty Park.

The event is sanctioned by the Tri-State Rodeo Association and the stock will be brought in from the famous Johnny Apple and the Plying J Rodeo Company.

An additional 1800 will be divided among the overall event winners and each regional event winner will receive a belt buckle.

Admission is \$3 for children and \$5 for adults.

Also this weekend, Country Music star Doug Supernaw will perform at the Lady Luck Casino on Friday and Saturday. Show times are at 9 p.m. and 11 p.m. Ticket price is \$10.

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Friday, May 30, 1997

THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT, Natchez, Miss. • 5A

1997 page 39



SETTING UP: Christy Williams, a coordinator for the Literary Celebration, decorates a screen painted by Carolyn Vance Smith's son, which illustrates the title of this year's Literary theme. She is hanging moss and decorating the screen with plants where it stands in the Eola Hotel.

The Natchez Democrat/Laura Skidling



Natchez Literary Celebration host to many groups

By JOAN GANDY
The Natchez Democrat

The annual Natchez Literary Celebration is host to a number of groups this week, said co-chairman of the conference Carolyn Vance Smith.

"Each year, we're really thrilled to see the number of prestigious groups, including boards of some state organizations, coming to the celebration," Smith said.

In addition, the Natchez Elderhostel program during the celebration is one of the most popular offered during the year.

"The Elderhostels are a great medium, and every year there is a waiting

list to get into the Literary Celebration Elderhostel week," Smith said.

About 70 Elderhostellers are in Natchez for the program this week.

Other groups attending are the Mississippi Humanities Council, the State Board for Mississippi Community and Junior Colleges, the Copiah-Lincoln Community College Board of Trustees and a large group of students from Rogers University in Tulsa, Okla.

"We're also hosting the board for the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at Ole Miss," Smith said.

"That's a great honor for us, and we

have the director of the center, Bill Ferris, as one of our speakers."

Another group to be recognized for excellence in teaching and academic success.

"We like to pay special tribute to students and faculty members in humanities divisions in our colleges and universities, and this is a wonderful opportunity to recognize them," Smith said.

Schools and outstanding humanities teachers are:

Alooma State University, Stephanie Marley, student, M.A., Christine Carter

Smith, faculty; Coahoma Community College, Ukiah Donay and Chauncy D. Prentiss, students; Keesa Woods and Wanda Reed, faculty.

Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Evelyn Lottin and Celeste Jones, students; Carolyn Owen and Janis Carol Rayah, faculty.

East Central Community College, Lana Lohert, student; Melinda Smith, faculty; East Mississippi Community College, Betty B. Kilbourn, faculty.

Itawamba Community College, Elisea McCrimmon, faculty; Jackson State University, Mary D. Coleman, faculty.

Jones Junior College, Patricia D. Hatfield, faculty.

Mississippi Delta Community College, Crystal Bradshaw, student; Rosemary Wright, faculty; Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Duke Sutherland, faculty.

Southwest Mississippi Community College, Stephanie Wilson, student; Sharon E. Lawson, faculty; Tougaloo College, Candice Love, student; Ben E. Bailey, faculty.

University of Southern Mississippi, Robyn Curtis, student; John Quinn, faculty.



The Natchez Elderhostelers are smiling

TRIBUTE: Copiah-Lincoln Community College hosted a reception in honor of Carolyn Vance Smith at the Eola Hotel on Thursday. Having taught English and journalism for 25 years, she is retiring this month as director of public relations and as a classroom instructor. At her reception, she hugs Vance Smith, who introduced her at Trinity as Choir Master. Smith is also co-chairman of the Natchez Literary Celebration.

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The Natchez

Friday, May 30, 1997

Celebration opens with talk of home

Dr. William Ferris discusses the Southerners sense of place

Natchez's hidden history, page 11A

By JAMIE O'BEIRNE

The Natchez Democrat

Vicksburg native Dr. William Ferris kicked-off the Natchez Literary Celebration Thursday morning with a discussion about "home."

"We are taught to devalue the places we're from," said Ferris. "But the most enduring lessons come between the ages of three and eight."

Over 180 audience members buzzing with excitement were on hand for the opening of the festival.

Ferris, who gave his presentation at the Natchez Eola, described the Southern sense of place.

"In the South, the first question asked of a stranger is 'Where are you from?'" Ferris said. "It's the most important question."

Ferris, who is director of the Center for Southern Culture at Ole Miss, discussed the complexities of Southern life.

According to Ferris the home "is not so much the literal land, but our interaction with it."

Most audience members seemed especially excited after the festival opening.

"At this point I couldn't be more excited," said Dorothy Stubbs who recently moved to Natchez from Baton Rouge.

"We've had guests from LSU come to stay with us for the past three days just for this."

Ferris discussed how the economic conditions of the South are like a third world country.

"Extreme poverty exists right alongside wealth. The South is the most American and unAmerican region in the country" he said.

Former Gov. William Winter, presiding as master of ceremonies, recognized the contributions of co-chairman Carolyn Vance Smith.

"What do you do with a lady who does everything? She helps with everything," Winter said.

The festival continues at 9 a.m. today in the Eola Hotel with a presentation by Dr. Patrick Samway, S.J.

For additional information call 445-0353.



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Natchez Democrat

Serving Natchez, Vidalia and the Miss-Lou

Natchez, Mississippi

50 cents

Jeansome explained that the colorful family went from "nothing to notoriety."

"They are Louisiana's royal family from the sticks," said Jeansome. "No 20th century family surpasses the Longs' as a human interest story."

"I loved the talk 'cause I've read all about that stuff," said W. J. Vince who grew up near Winfield, La. "I was raised during the Longs' reign and in that part of the state."

"Every time you'd pick up the paper you'd hear about the Longs. Some foolishness they were in."

Also, during the question and answer session, Baton Rouge physician Dr. Donald Pavy took issue with a part of Jeansome's presentation.

Pavy questioned the accepted details concerning Huey Long's assassination by Dr. Carl Wice.

Pavy, who is related by marriage to Wice, felt that Wice was wrongly credited with Long's assassination.

A complex conspiracy hides the truth, Pavy said.

"I have a book coming out that will blow the conspiracy wide open," said Pavy. "But overall, Jeansome's presentation was excellent."

Pavy and Jeansome later met to discuss their differences.

"I'm anxious to read Pavy's book," said Natchez resident Jim Ware. "I enjoy all the controversy."

"Edwards runs a close second, but there is still no one as interesting as the Longs," said Baton Rouge resident Leslie Barris.

The Literary Celebration continues at 9 a.m. today.

The festival will culminate tonight with the presentation of the Richard Wright Award and a presentation by poet James A. Astry.



1997 page 42

Illustrious Long's literary topic

By JAMIE O'BEIRNE
The Natchez Democrat

Kickbacks, bribery, and lack of moral inhibitions describe the "Long Dynasty of Louisiana."

That's the depiction presented Friday by Dr. Glen Jeansome in his presentation "The Longs Of Louisiana" at the Natchez Literary Celebration.

Jeansome discussed several generations of the famous Louisiana political family, especially focusing on Earl and Huey Long.

"If you were for Huey Long, you could have anything," Jeansome related. "If you were against him, God help you unless you were an extraordinary man."

Looking for a home?

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Natchez Literary Celebration!



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THE EIGHTH ANNUAL
NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION

presents

LITERARY GIANTS:

AN EVENING TO REMEMBER



8 p.m., Saturday, May 31, 1997
The Natchez Hotel
Natchez, Mississippi

Presiding: The Honorable William F. Winter
President, Board of Trustees
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Jackson, Mississippi

AGENDA

Introduction of the 1997 Most Outstanding Students and
Faculty Members in Mississippi's colleges and universities
by Mr. Winter

...

Introduction of Dr. Billy B. Thames, Retiring President
Copiah-Lincoln Community College
by Mr. Winter

...

Presentation of the
Richard Wright Literary Excellence Awards
to the Mississippi-born writers

MR. SHELBY FOOTE, Memphis, Tennessee,
the author of novels and short stories
about the heritage of the American South
and *The Civil War: A Narrative*

and

MS. ELIZABETH SPENCER, Chapel Hill, North Carolina,
the author of such novels as
The Light in the Piazza and *The Night Travellers* and
such short story collections as *The Stories of Elizabeth Spencer*

by Dr. John D. W. Guice
The University of Southern Mississippi
Vice Chairman, Awards Committee

Funding for the awards is provided through the generosity of Natchez Newspapers, Inc.

QUILTED TOGETHER:
THE POET AND THE WRITER COME HOME TO MISSISSIPPI

by Mr. CLIFTON TAULBERT, Tulsa, Oklahoma
and
Mr. JAMES A. AUTRY, Des Moines, Iowa

about Mr. Taulbert...

Born in Glen Allen, Mississippi, and educated at Oral Roberts University and Southern Methodist University, Mr. Taulbert is a bestselling author whose childhood memories about life and learning have touched thousands of people. His first book, *Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored*, was made into a four-star movie. His second book, *The Last Train North*, was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. His third and latest book, *Watching Our Crops Come In*, was published in 1997 to wide acclaim. In addition to being a writer, Mr. Taulbert is a highly successful businessman whose company developed the market for the Stairmaster Exercise System. He has been honored across America and Europe as a writer, humanitarian, and civic leader.

about Mr. Autry...

A native of Benton County, Mississippi, and an honored alumnus of The University of Mississippi, Mr. Autry is the author of five books. His poems appear in *Nights Under a Tin Roof* and *Life After Mississippi*, both of which are on cassette. His non-fiction concerning leadership appears in *Love and Profit: The Art of Caring Leadership: Life and Work: A Manager's Search for Meaning, and Confessions of an Accidental Businessman*. One of the poets featured on Bill Moyers' CBS special series, "The Power of the Word," Mr. Autry is a founder of the Des Moines National Poetry Festival, is former president of the magazine group at Meredith Corporation (publisher of *Better Homes and Gardens*), and is winner of numerous awards and honorary degrees for excellence.

...

about festivities later this evening...

A reception and autograph party, hosted by the Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American Culture, immediately follows this evening's program. The event will be held at the Historic Natchez Foundation, 108 South Commerce Street. Tickets are \$10, available only in The Eola Hotel Lobby. Books by this evening's literary giants will be sold at the party. (Though Mr. Foote is unable to sign books, Ms. Spencer, Mr. Taulbert, and Mr. Autry will do so.)

The Natchez Democrat

Natchez, Mississippi Sunday, 6-1-97

Spencer, Foote win Wright literary awards

By BRIAN HAWKINS
The Natchez Democrat

Two of Mississippi's natives were honored Saturday with a literary excellence award named for Natchez's own "native son."

Elizabeth

Spencer, author of such novels as "The Light in the Piazza" and "The Night Travellers," and Shelby Foote, whose three-

volume "The Civil War: a Narrative," was the basis for the PBS miniseries "The Civil War," were named the recipients of the Richard Wright Literary



Spencer



Foote

Excellence Awards during the final session of the Natchez Literary Celebration.

Wright, who died in 1960, is most famous for his novels "Black Boy" and "Native Son."

Spencer, a Carrollton native and graduate of Belhaven College and Vanderbilt University, adds the Wright award to her many other

prestigious literary honors, but she said receiving it is "very humbling."

"It fills me with certain feelings."

See AWARDS, Page 16A

When you read his books, you see the hardships he faced within his family and from the outside world," Spencer said.

"For Richard Wright, the world of books opened up a world previously impossible to find, and when we reread his books, we see what a trailblazer he was. I feel both honored and humble."

For Foote, a Greenville native and author of the novel, "Shiloh," which many have described as the most famous Civil War story since "The Red Badge of Courage," receiving the award in Natchez "hooks me up to a past I

sometimes dream about."

"This award is also a way to make a superb apology to Richard Wright for the prejudices and injustices he endured," Foote said.

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AWARD RECIPIENTS: Shelby Foote, author of "The Civil War: a Narrative," and Elizabeth Spencer, far right, author of "The Light in the Piazza," each receive their Richard Wright Literary Excellence Awards from Dr. John Guice, left, history professor at the University of Southern University, at an awards dinner during the Natchez Literary Celebration Saturday night.



The Natchez Democrat/Laura Skolding

1997 page 46

O The Natchez Democrat PINION

Congratulations go to authors and Natchez Literary Celebration

The South, of which the Miss-Lou is an integral part, has a rich heritage and a full and complex past filled with great men and women from all walks of life.

One such man was Richard Wright, a Natchez native who authored such great novels as "Black Boy" and "Native Son."

To honor his name and his literary talent and to recognize other talents that have come after him, the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Awards are given out.

This year the Richard Wright awards went to Elizabeth Spencer, author of "The Light in the Piazza" and "The Night Travelers," and Shelby Foote, the author of the three-volume "The Civil War: a Narrative." They were presented during the Natchez Literary Celebration.

We congratulate Spencer and Foote for both being selected to receive this award as well as for engaging and enlightening us by putting pen to paper. We also congratulate Carolyn Vance Smith and all the volunteers who have put together another great Literary Celebration.

This event adds deeper dimensions to Natchez, Mississippi and The South and serves as an example of what is right with The South today. The Natchez Literary Celebration explores, celebrates and honors the rich heritage of The South as well as its complex past filled with great men and women of both yesterday and today.

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Mississippi Writers William Faulkner and Eudora Welty, 1962

Daytime lectures and presentations are **FREE**. Enhancing the lecture series are low-cost events related to the theme, including tours of historic mansions, an evening at the theater, a movie, booksignings, and festive social events.



The Eighth Annual

Natchez Literary Celebration

presents

**Famous Southern Families
in Fiction and in Fact**

May 29 – 31, 1997

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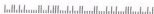
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Eudora Welty's 5 Photographs: Home Places Offered by Department to Benefit Trust Fund

The Mississippi Department of Archives and History announces *Home Places: 5 Photographs* by Eudora Welty, the first in a series of limited edition sets, featuring black and white photographs by Eudora Welty. The theme of the first edition, home places, is reflected in images of home taken during the 1930s in Utica, Grenada, and Jackson, Mississippi. The photographs were selected by Eudora Welty and Pam Black, former director of the Old Capitol Museum.

Printed by James Patterson from original negatives in the Department's Welty Collection, the photographs are archivally processed to meet the standards of the Image Permanency Institute. The photographs are printed on 11x14 sheets of silver paper, toned, and unmounted. The image size is determined by the format of the negative. Each photograph will bear an imprint for the Welty Collection and the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Prints are available individually or in a set of five.

The Eudora Welty Print Series is a fundraising project for the Welty House Trust Fund

(for the future preservation of Miss Welty's Belhaven home) and the Archives Trust Fund. Each edition will contain five images, with 500 prints of each image. The first 150 prints (five images) will be sold as sets only at \$500 per set (plus \$35 state sales tax and \$8.50 per set shipping); prints not assembled as sets will be available for individual purchase at \$100 each (plus \$7.00 state sales tax and \$6.25 each shipping). Prepublication orders for sets are being accepted by mail order only. No more than five sets may be ordered on a single purchase; there are no discounts for multiple-set purchases or to dealers. ⁸⁰⁰ The customer pickup will be available at the Old Capitol Shop after May 19. Sets (to be delivered)

will be shipped during the week of May 19. Individual photographs may be purchased at the Old Capitol Shop or ordered by mail. For more information, write or call the Shop, P.O. Box 571, Jackson, MS 39205-0571, tel. 601/359-6921.

Pictured above is Pigs and Sheets, one of five photographs offered.



Natchez Literary Celebration May 29-31

"Famous Southern Families in Fiction and Fact" is the theme of this year's Natchez Literary Celebration, to be held May 29-31, with headquarters at the Natchez Eola Hotel. Speakers include authors Clifton Taulbert (*Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored*), Ellen Douglas (*Black Cloud, White Cloud and Cps' i Quit You, Baby*), Will D. Campbell (*Providence and Brother to a Dragonfly*), James Autry (poetry), and many more. Winners of the 1997 Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award are novelist Elizabeth Spencer and historian/novelist Shelby Foote, both of whom will be on hand for presentation ceremonies. Eudora Welty's *The Ponder Heart* will be performed, and the film version of *Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored* will be shown. "Most of the lectures are free, with tours to historic homes and buildings, film, play, and social events priced individually," according to conference co-chair Carolyn Vance Smith. Tickets are available from the Natchez Box Office, 1-800-862-3259. Complete ticket packages are \$100, with a special package at \$395 that includes all tickets, four nights in a downtown hotel, and eleven meals.

Mississippi 1500-1800 t-shirts, printed in two bright Festival colors, are available for purchase in the Old Capitol Shop.

Call for Papers: Gulf Coast Conf.

A call for papers and panel proposals has been issued for the 16th Gulf Coast History and Humanities Conference on "The History and Historical Archaeology of the Gulf Coast," to be held in Pensacola October 9-11, 1997. Keynote speaker is Jerald T. Milanich, Florida Museum of Natural History; Gregory A. Wasekov, University of South Alabama, will publish the papers after they are refereed. To submit proposals (by May 20, 1997), please contact Daniel E. Miller, 904/474-2067.

Mississippi Historic Preservation Conference May 8-10

Preservation experts will speak on "Starting Heritage Tourism in Your Hometown," "Old House Preservation," "Designing Guidelines for Neighborhoods," and more at the 1997 Historic Preservation Conference May 8-10 in Natchez. Stephen Dennis, preservation legal specialist, will be available for private consultation with communities facing pressing legal issues, and Peter Brink, vice-president of the National Trust for Historic Pres-

ervation, will present annual preservation awards. Conference sponsors are the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the Mississippi Heritage Trust. Registration for educational sessions is \$35. Among additional events are a Black Heritage Tour, Archaeology Council Picnic, dinner at The Burn, and a Church Hill Ramble. For more information, call the Mississippi Heritage Trust, 601/354-0200.

MAY 29-31
THE EIGHTH ANNUAL
NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION
NATCHEZ, MISS.



Among those who will speak or be spoken about at this year's Natchez Literary Festival are: (clockwise from above), Jason Buchtel, founder of the Southern Film Institute in New Orleans; authors Shelby Foote and Alex Haley; and Bethany Ewald Bultman, author of *Redneck Heaven: The Admirable Sons of America*.



Southern families with their tried and true traditions may have an edge on other American clans when times get tough.

That's the view of Dr. William Ferris, whose lecture "Belonging: The Family in the South, An Overview," will introduce the 1997 Natchez Literary Celebration.

"Family has always been significant in the South," says Ferris, director of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi.

"Deeply rooted family traditions will help Southerners to face the whole complex world of 21st century technology and mobility," Ferris said.

Following the theme "Famous Southern Families in Fact and in Fiction," the Literary Celebration will host more than a dozen scholars whose topics will range from aristocrats to rednecks and from philosophers to poets, real and fictional.

The eighth annual celebration will take place at the Natchez Eola Hotel. Co-sponsors of the event are Copiah-Lincoln Community College, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the Natchez National Historical Park.

"Since 1990, the conference has attracted thousands of people who are obviously hungry for reading, writing and thinking," said Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln, co-chairman of the event.

"Nowhere else in the South is there such a conference with a truly diverse audience, racially mixed, of people of all ages and from all walks of life," Smith said. "The common bond is books."

In addition to Ferris, speakers for the celebration and their topics are:

- Dr. Robert V. Remini, professor emeritus of history, University of Illinois, "Three Great Southern Families: The Jacksons, the Donelsons, the Clays."
- Ellen Douglas, author, Jackson, Miss., "Another Kind of Remembering: The Dunbars, the Hendersons, and the Surgetts of Adams County, Mississippi."
- Dr. Marie Tyler-McGraw, historian, National Park Service, Washington, D.C., "Black and White Families at Arlington House, the Robert E. Lee Memorial Mansion."
- Dr. Noel Polk, professor of English, University of Southern Mississippi, "The Families of Eudora Welty's Fiction."



• Dr. Patrick Sawyer, literary editor, America, New York City, "William Alexander Percy and Walker Percy: Writers of the South."

• Dr. Glen Jeansonne, professor of history, University of Wisconsin, "The Longs of Louisiana."

• Dr. Kenneth Holditch, professor emeritus of English, University of New Orleans, "Aristocrats, Rebels, and Rednecks: Faulkner's Families in Fact and Fiction."

• Jason Buchtel, founder, Southern Film Institute, New Orleans, "Of Dining and Dynasties: The Families behind Antoine's, Commander's Palace and Galatoire's Restaurants."

• Bethany Ewald Bultman, author, New Orleans, "Redneck Heaven: The Admirable Sons of America."

• Will D. Campbell, author, Mount Juliet, Tenn., "Providence: Its

Land and Its People."

• Kathleen McClain Jenkins, Natchez National Historical Park, "Next of Kin—the Turners, the Quitmans, the McMurrans, the Conners: An Intimate Glimpse into the Households of Four Historically Prominent Natchez Families."

• Clifton Taulbert, author and film producer, Tulsa, Okla., and James A. Autry, poet and founder of the Des Moines National Poetry Festival, "Quilted Together: The Writer and the Poet come home to Mississippi."

The celebration also will include a Natchez Little Theatre production of Eudora Welty's *The Ponder Heart* (see page 24) as well as a showing of the award-winning film *Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored*, based on Taulbert's memoirs.

In addition, two tours will be offered during the conference, one with a literary theme and the other with a family theme. Both will take participants into some of Natchez's most interesting homes.

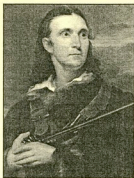
Lectures are free. Tours and other extra activities require tickets, which are low in cost. Information about tickets is available by calling the Natchez Box Office at 1-800-862-3289 or at (601) 448-0353.

**TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
CELEBRATES 175 YEARS OF CHRISTIAN FAITH
AND LITERARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

1. Charles Stietenroth had for some years been compiling information related to Trinity when in 1922 at the urging of fellow parishioners he published *One Hundred Years with "Old Trinity" Church*. In it he offers a history of Trinity, excerpts from vestry minutes, and beautifully written biographical notes on Trinity's rectors and a number of its communicants.
 2. Robert E. May's *John A. Quitman: Old South Crusader* is the biography of a Trinity parishioner who was a general in the Mexican War, governor of Mississippi from 1850 to 1851, a member of the U. S. House of Representatives from 1855 to 1858 and the builder of the antebellum home Monmouth. The cover of *The Journal of Mississippi History* depicts portraits of Quitman and Jefferson Davis.
 3. In 1845 Varina Howell was married to Jefferson Davis at her family's Natchez home, the Briars, by the Reverend David C. Page, rector of Trinity Church. Jefferson Davis became President of the Confederacy, and after his death Varina Howell Davis supported herself as a freelance writer. In 1890 her two-volume memoir of her husband's life was published. It is interesting to note that the author's name was given as Varina Jefferson Davis, according to the custom at that time.
 4. Joan Balfour Payne (Mrs. John B. Dicks) and her mother Josephine Balfour Payne collaborated in the 1950's, writing and illustrating whimsical and enchanting children's books peopled with delightful characters including a lonely giant who enjoys tea and crumpets, a stowaway leprechaun who travels to America's southern bayous, and an ordinary cat who dyes her paws and tail in imitation of an elegant and aristocratic Siamese in *The Piebald Princess*.
 5. Written in 1958 by Margaret Persell Marshall, *The Six Little Girls of Lansdowne* is the true story of Mrs. Marshall's six granddaughters who grew up on their grandparents' cotton plantation in the 1950's. Mrs. Marshall was inspired by Louise-Clarke Pyrmelle's book *Diddle, Dumps and Tot* which tells of three sisters who lived on a plantation near Natchez before the Civil War. The Marshall family connection to Trinity Church dates to the girls' great-great grandfather Levin R. Marshall who was one of the founding members, and his son George Marshall who was a senior warden in 1890 and 1891. All six girls were christened and confirmed at Trinity, and the oldest, Marsha (Margaret) Colson, is a newly elected vestry member. *The Six Little Girls of Lansdowne* was reprinted in 1994 by Charlotte Marshall Edmonds, the fourth of the girls.
 6. Pierce Butler, born in New Orleans in 1873, was Dean Emeritus of Newcomb College when in 1948 he published *The Unhurried Years*, an account of life at Laurel Hill, the plantation near Natchez where Butler's family had lived from the late eighteenth century. He tells of a tenant who had lived on the property for many years, one Pluvius Morton, so named because he was born during a great rain. In 1954 Butler published *Laurel Hill and Later*, an account of his life. Wilmer Shields, son of a family friend, managed Laurel Hill for Butler's father in the late nineteenth century. Now Shields's great-great granddaughter, Kathy Marshall Moody, manages the 2,000 acre estate for Mr. Butler's grandson and namesake, Pierce Butler III. Kathy Moody is one of the "Six Little Girls."
 7. Elizabeth Dunbar Murray's book, *My Mother Used to Say*, is a collection of stories and memories related by her mother, Mary Conway Shields Dunbar. In it she tells how her mother brought with her from Virginia a slave woman named Aramintha who became Elizabeth's nurse and taught her to read from the family Bible. Also included are an account of Christmas on the family plantation near Natchez in 1859, with candy pulling and cries of "Christmas gift." And finally, the story of two ladies who in 1863 "were ordered to leave Vicksburg on twenty four hours' notice for leaving the Episcopal church when Lincoln was being prayed for."
 8. Carolyn Vance Smith is founder of the Natchez Literary Celebration and has taught English at Copiah Lincoln Community College in Natchez since 1977 in addition to serving as Director of Public Relations. An Episcopalian since her marriage 30 years ago, Carolyn has served in the choir and altar guild, as President of the Episcopal Church Women, and on the Diocesan Executive Committee. She speaks of "the joy of seeing thoughts come alive on paper." Several of her many non-fiction books are featured throughout the exhibit.
- Laurea Bailey Parks, a nationally known textile artist, interpreted architectural features from nine antebellum homes in Natchez to create nine stunning quilts. She is married to the Reverend Limuel G. Parks, Jr. who was rector of Trinity Church from 1982 to 1991. Mrs. Parks and Carolyn Vance Smith collaborated on the book *Natchez by Design* to tell the story of the quilts and the houses that inspired them.

A literary history of the house at 508 Washington Street

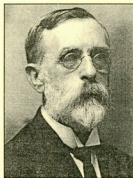
Peter Isler, a printer and publisher who was **the official printer for the Mississippi Territory**, built the original story-and-a-half townhouse prior to 1819.



John J. Audubon

In 1819, Isler sold the house to Joseph Quegles of Majorca, who lived here with his family. Three years later, in March of 1822, Quegles commissioned **artist and ornithologist John J. Audubon** to teach drawing, music and French lessons to his daughter, Melanie. Audubon conducted lessons in the house. Members of Judge William T. Martin's family, who lived in the house throughout the 20th century, said that Audubon painted in a second-floor studio in the back brick building in the home. Audubon went on to become one of America's most famous painters of birds, publishing numerous sets of his works, and is the namesake for the Audubon Society.

Another literary figure, **Natchez photographer Henry C. Norman**, purchased the home in 1891 for \$4,500. Norman quickly became the best-known photographer in the region and was called upon to photograph the most significant social and cultural events in town for 30 years. Norman photographed streets, people, businesses, landscapes, the river and its riverboats, leaving a tremendous body of work. His work has been featured in three books and numerous exhibits by Joan and Thomas Gandy, who purchased the Norman negatives from his widow, Clara, in 1961.

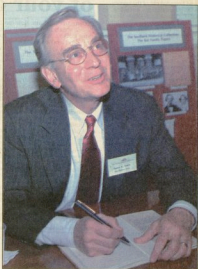


Henry C. Norman

Around 1900, the story-and-a-half building was raised to a full two stories high. One of the original dormer windows of the story-and-a-half townhouse remains intact on the stair landing. Four original gasoliers, which are now electrified, are still in use. The house is now home to **Natchez Democrat Publisher Kenneth Boone** and his family.

FEATURES

So uniquely ...



Melinda Martinez — Page Designer

James A. Autry, an author from Mississippi, signs a copy of his book of poetry, *Nights Under a Tin Roof* at a reception following the Literary Giants program at the Natchez Literary Celebration.



Melinda Martinez — Page Designer

Clifton Taulbert speaks with guests following the Literary Giants program at the Natchez Literary Celebration. Taulbert and fellow Mississippi writer James A. Autry were the featured writers in the program, where they discussed shared heritage as southerners.

Southern

In the midst of differences, a heritage is shared

By Robin Miller
Staff reporter

NATCHEZ, Miss. — Words provided their examples, words of memory and sentiment, patches from stories seen together to make a quilt of southern culture. Words always seem to challenge the imagination, nourishing the mind's eye ability to form its own picture, which is good, for this proves them true.

Odd, though. No matter how good their words — and they are good — they stand in the shadow of something physical, a sight before the eyes that really has nothing to do with this event yet makes everything so clear.

The occasion is titled "Quilted Together: The Poet and Writer Come Home to Mississippi." It's part of the Natchez Literary Celebration's program, "Literary Giants: An Evening to Remember."

Authors Elizabeth Spencer and Shelby Steele are this year's recipients of the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Awards, an honor annually given to specially-chosen Mississippi-born writers. The evening's highlight comes afterward, when author Clifton Taulbert and poet James A. Autry take the podium, leaning on lecterns, totally at ease.

They don't perform. Any performance here would have been out of place here, anyway, for they are at home in Mississippi, among those of their shared culture. Anyone here can detect acting of any kind, if their speeches are rehearsed.

If what they say doesn't come from the heart. But it does.

Taulbert and Autry love their native state, though they live in other places. Taulbert in Tulsa, Okla., and Autry in Des Moines, Iowa.

So much irony in this story, but not really perplexing. Like the sight, the physical example of their talk.

"On the West Coast, people ask, 'What do you do?' In the South, they ask, 'Where are you from?'"

James A. Autry
Poet

Community College, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the National Park Service have teamed to host this year's literary celebration. The eighth at that.

This night is in Lorman, Miss., a few miles north off U.S. Highway 91. A sign points the way, and its drive is just past Alcorn State University.

There, surrounded by forest, they stand. As proud as the day they were built, as ruined as that day in 1980, when the house they supported disintegrated into fiery ashes. Windsor ruins, they're called the last of a 23-room antebellum mansion.

Castle is more like it. It was that grand. But even its glory couldn't withstand an accidental fire, just as the dilapidated wooden shack standing next to it will eventually fall to the hands of time.

The shack tells the rest of this story, provides the full example. See, the shack was built probably some time in the 1940s or '50s. It has nothing to do with the ruins towering over it, yet they are the same.

Both occupied this land at one time. Windsor saw a family thrive here. The shack probably did, too. And though both are in decay, both stand strong. Reminders of time and place, of a shared heritage.

poor. That's only a guess, for there is no information immediately available about the shack.

What are available are the thoughts that form late in the program, listening to the conversation between Taulbert and Autry.

No, they don't live in Mississippi anymore, and they are different.

Taulbert is black. Autry is white. Taulbert grew up in the Mississippi Delta, Autry the hills to the north.

Autry's family might have been a little more affluent than Taulbert's, the Delta being a notoriously poor part of the state, but Taulbert has a point.

"We slept under a tin roof," Taulbert says. "When it rained, it was like a symphony. I wonder, could those people living in the mansions on the other side of town sleep any better? The same symphony orchestra played violins on both sides of town."

And when that rain falls in Lorman, it plays timp on the columns as well as the roof of the shack. Both share the rain, both share the land and both share the culture.

Which is what Taulbert and Autry are representing here.

There is even more irony to this story. Taulbert's Autry met in New York. Not Mississippi, New York as in the city, a most northern, cosmopolitan place. Yes, it was a long way from their rural childhood homes, and some people may have thought the instant friendship between these two men odd.

Both had moved away from Mississippi, therefore both had moved away from the South. Both had also seen the times before the Civil Rights movement, a time when a field secretary for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People could be assassinated in front of his home, his life going unmissed.

The Town Talk, Alexandria-Pineville, La.

Continued from C-1

York, recognition for his poetry, the kind that appears in his books *Nights Under a Tin Roof* and *Life After Mississippi*. The first book specifically cites Autry's memories of Mississippi, the ways of his people and community.

The little things they did that made them so, well, not just Missisippians but southerners.

Taulbert's autobiographical book *When We Were Colored* does basically the same thing as Autry's. Only thing is Autry's story is told from a white southerner's point of view, Taulbert tells his as a black southerner.

Now comes the irony of ironies.

There isn't much difference between their stories. In fact, hardly difference at all.

Taulbert somehow knew this when attending the awards ceremony for Autry, then realizing that Autry wasn't just another writer. He was a southerner, and better yet, a fellow Missisippiian.

"From where I was sitting, it was like 300 miles of space between Jim and me," Taulbert says. "When they said he was a southerner, that space was no longer there. I wasn't thinking 'white,' I was thinking of the things that made us the same.

"Sometimes feelings are so fragile, and you don't want to trust them. I was thinking, 'Will he be as excited to meet me as I am to meet him?'"

Autry also recalls this first meeting.

"I was thinking, 'How do I show him I don't harbor all those old feelings?'" he says, suddenly facing Taulbert across the podium. "I was as nervous as you."

Taulbert laughs. The laugh says it all. Friendship was there from the beginning, and it remains strong.

As strong as the determination of the column ruins and wooden shack up the road, refusing to be destroyed by attitudes, sharing a heritage,

standing together in peace on grounds that were once troubled.

But no more. Not between these two structures and not between Taulbert and Autry.

"What is more important to us is family and kinship and place," Taulbert says. "We're both from the South, where the smells of DDT and honeysuckle mingle in the wind. But it's the South. It didn't matter what color we were, we both had a sense of place."

"On the West Coast, people ask, 'What do you do?'" Autry adds. "In the South, they ask, 'Where are you from?'"

So when the two met in New York, the meeting took care of itself. They simply embraced, and even avenues of skyscrapers couldn't overwhelm the ground they shared at that moment.

Spirit of the South

Southerners sharing the spirit of the South. Even their lives after Mississippi take different turns. Autry, born in Benton County, Miss., and a graduate of the University of Mississippi, is founder of the Des Moines National Poetry Festival and former president of the magazine group at Meredith Corporation, which publishes *Better Homes and Gardens*.

Taulbert was born in Allen, Miss., and educated at Oral Roberts and Southern Methodist universities. His book *The Last Train North* was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize, and *When We Were Colored* was made into a film.

He also is a businessman whose company developed the market for the Stairmaster Exercise System.

Different histories. Still southerners.

They talk of the rain that falls on all the roofs in a southern town. They compare the small houses to the big ones and talk of how Civil War pageants are designed to preserve history, but how they can't help marveling at the slave's endurance and determination to say, "I'll survive despite it all."

"This conversation of how we're so much more similar than different has been going on

three or four years," Autry says. "We both have a love of family and community and a sense of that wonderful, tragic place we call the South."

"It's the discovery of how much we're alike that's so great. Let's not talk about what makes us different — we talk about what makes us the same."

Things like eating sandwiches dripping with mayonnaise and planting gardens and shopping in country stores.

Things like watching as mama pours grease from the skillet into a coffee can next to the sink.

Things like taking heed of grandparents' wisdom.

"My grandfather used to say, 'Tomorrow is going to be the brightest day because man ain't touched it yet,'" Taulbert says.

Autry ponders this statement for a moment.

"You know, I remember at our meeting in New York, when you came up to me after I had read some poetry, and a friend came up afterwards," he says. "She was an editor for a magazine. She asked you, 'When you wake up in the morning, do you wake up saying, 'I'm a black American?'"

"You said, 'No. I say, 'I'm a southern American who happens to be black.'"

Taulbert now does the pondering.

There is also pondering throughout the room, which happens to be a sellout. And what a show they've received, the pondering a privilege, just thinking of the succession of the words here.

Southern American who is black.

The South comes first, and it has nothing to do with the Confederacy or the Civil War.

It comes first because it is what makes Taulbert who he is, even in Oklahoma. Autry, too.

They're like the ruins of the columns and shack in Lorman. Both are different in so many ways, yet the same.

Because they share a heritage.

They are quilted together in the South.



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August 14 - deadline July 10
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Clifton L. Taulbert, author of
The Last Train North and
Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored

W. H. Campbell



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James H. Mulry



Noel Roth

1997 page 59



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William...



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William Wink



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Shelby Cooke



W. Kenneth Hoklitch

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SOUTHERN FAMILIES: BOUND TOGETHER IN THE TREE OF LIFE

From Eudora Welty's fictional Ponders to William Faulkner's legendary Snopeses...from the real-life black and white Lees of Virginia to the bigger-than-life Longs of Louisiana...from philosophers to poets...from food experts to military heroes...from aristocrats to rebels to rednecks...

All kinds of Southerners are intertwined in this "tree of life," a multi-media depiction by William M. Smith, Jr., who created it especially for the 1997 Natchez Literary Celebration.

ABOUT THE ARTIST, WILLIAM M. SMITH, JR.

A native of Natchez, Mississippi, William M. Smith, Jr., 24, attended Trinity Episcopal Day School in Natchez before transferring to The McCallie School, Chattanooga, Tennessee, for his high school years. While at McCallie, he studied art and architecture and produced numerous set designs for the school's theater department.

In 1994 Smith earned a bachelor of fine arts degree with honors in a double major of painting and sculpture from Birmingham Southern College, Birmingham, Alabama. His senior project, which included multiple paintings and sculptures, was the featured exhibit in the BSC art department during the spring of 1994.

During the year following graduation from BSC, Smith worked as manager of visual designs and displays in Birmingham at Macy's, Rich's, and The Gap. He also created theater sets at Mountain Brook High School and produced custom portraits, murals, and other paintings for homes, schools, churches, and businesses in the Birmingham area.

In September 1995 Smith moved to Northampton, Massachusetts, to accept a position as visual arts designer at the largest mall in New England. He also worked part time in set design and construction in the theater department at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and accepted commissioned paintings and drawings for individuals and businesses. In the summer of 1996 Smith returned south to work in two art studios in Atlanta, the David Johnson Studio and the Cherrylion Studio. One of his major assignments was assisting with a multi-million-dollar bronze sculpture given to the city of Atlanta by the Prince of Wales Society of England in commemoration of the Centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta.

Smith is currently busy with studio art, teaching art classes, and studying at the University of Georgia, Athens. Future plans are to obtain a master of art therapy degree. His paintings, sculptures, and designs have been featured in art galleries and private collections throughout the South, including a 1996 one-man show at the Natchez Art Gallery. He has also won numerous awards, including two first-place awards in a 1997 art contest sponsored by Trinity Episcopal Church of Natchez. His work with the Natchez Literary Celebration began in 1989 when he designed the NLC logo and has continued annually with such exhibits as the three-dimensional mannequin displays in 1996, which carried out the theme of "Southern Women." Numerous other designs have also been published in major magazines, newspapers, and commissioned publications.

***The artist is represented by
The Art Alliance, 650 Pulaski Street, Athens, GA 30601; 1-706-543-9140***

cutline for photo of Eudora Welty and William Faulkner
to accompany story about Natchez Literary Celebration

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Two famous Southern writers, William Faulkner and Eudora Welty, both of Mississippi, will have their fiction discussed at the eighth annual Natchez (Mississippi) Literary Celebration, May 29-31, 1997. Theme of the conference is "Famous Southern Families in Fiction and in Fact." Both Faulkner and Welty made their families famous and wrote about fictional families who likewise have become famous. Faulkner and Welty are shown in 1962 on the occasion of Faulkner's receiving the National Institute of Arts and Letters Gold Medal for Fiction. (Photograph is owned by University Archives, The University of Mississippi.)

The Natchez Literary Celebration, winner of numerous awards, including a national Cultural Olympics Award for outstanding humanities programming, is sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the National Park Service.

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FIGURE 1. The effect of the concentration of the inhibitor on the rate of polymerization of styrene in the presence of $\text{K}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$ at 50°C. $[\text{M}]_0 = 0.5 \text{ M}$, $[\text{K}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8]_0 = 0.005 \text{ M}$, $[\text{K}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8]_{\text{eq}} = 0.001 \text{ M}$, $[\text{K}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8]_{\text{excess}} = 0.004 \text{ M}$, $[\text{K}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8]_{\text{inhibitor}} = 0.001 \text{ M}$, $[\text{K}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8]_{\text{inhibitor}} = 0.002 \text{ M}$, $[\text{K}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8]_{\text{inhibitor}} = 0.004 \text{ M}$, $[\text{K}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8]_{\text{inhibitor}} = 0.008 \text{ M}$, $[\text{K}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8]_{\text{inhibitor}} = 0.016 \text{ M}$, $[\text{K}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8]_{\text{inhibitor}} = 0.032 \text{ M}$, $[\text{K}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8]_{\text{inhibitor}} = 0.064 \text{ M}$, $[\text{K}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8]_{\text{inhibitor}} = 0.128 \text{ M}$, 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Part C	1	145.00
Part D	1	0.00
Subtotal for Part D	1	1.80
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1. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 2000; 283: 2689-2695.

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QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	RATE	AMOUNT
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5,302	Mail Prep	5.045	267.59
5,302	CASS Updates	5.015	265.93
	Computer Setup	25.00	25.00
25	Computer File Download	5.00	125.00

Total 14,000,000

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The
University of Mississippi

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Center for the Study of Southern Culture

University, MS 38677

(601) 232-5993

Fax: 232-5814

E-mail: sta@barnard.cssc.olemiss.edu

URL: <http://www.cssc.olemiss.edu>

file
publicity

March 18, 1997

TO: State Advisory Committee

FROM: William Ferris, Director

SUBJECT: Advisory Committee Meeting in Natchez

The Center's State Advisory Committee will hold its next meeting on Saturday, May 31, during the 1997 Natchez Literary Celebration. SAC member Carolyn Vance Smith is cochair of the May 28-31 event, which will explore the theme "Famous Southern Families in Fiction and in Fact." Among the scholars and writers scheduled to speak are Will D. Campbell, Ellen Douglas, Kenneth Holditch, Noel Polk, and Clifton Taulbert. I have the honor of giving the opening talk on this impressive program. This year's Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award will be presented to Elizabeth Spencer and Shelby Foote. Other activities include a performance of Eudora Welty's *The Ponder Heart*, a showing of the film version of Taulbert's *Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored*, tours, book signings, and receptions.

A flyer with information about the program and registration is enclosed. Most of the lectures are free, and tours to historic homes and buildings, the film, the play, and social events are priced individually at low cost. Tickets are available through the Natchez Box Office. For details, see the flyer. For lodging information and reservations, call the Eola Hotel at 445-6000 or Natchez Pilgrimage Tours at 800-647-6742. Carolyn and I hope you will plan to attend the entire Literary Celebration as well as the SAC lunch and meeting.

At noon on Saturday, May 31, thanks to the kind invitation of SAC member John Callon, we will gather for lunch at the conference room of Callon Petroleum Company's headquarters, located on the top floor of a beautifully restored building overlooking the Mississippi River. The address is 200 North Canal Street; telephone 442-1601. The cost of the meal, including drinks and wine, is \$15.50 a person. (Checks should be made to the caterer, Sissy Eidt.) Our meeting will begin immediately after lunch and will conclude no later than 4:00 p.m. Please return the enclosed form to make reservations for lunch. Or, if you prefer, you may call my assistant, Scott McCraw, at 232-5993.

You will soon be receiving a new issue of the *Southern Register* with announcements of a variety of Center activities, but please mark your calendars now for the following dates.

STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
1997 Natchez Literary Celebration

Reply Form

Name _____

Address _____

Name of Spouse or guest accompanying you _____

ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

I/We plan to attend the following events:

_____ Board meeting on Saturday, May 31, at Calton Petroleum Company

_____ Lunch on Saturday, May 31, at Calton Petroleum Company

Please complete this form and send it to Center for the Study of Southern Culture,
University of Mississippi, University, MS 38677, by Friday, May 16--earlier if
possible, or fax it to (601) 232-2814.

State Advisory Committee
March 18, 1997
Page 2

June 27: SAC members Jim and Madeleine McMahon, whose generous donation is funding two new joint professorships in Southern Studies, will host a fund-raising event for the Center at their magnificent antebellum home in Pass Christian. For a preview of the house, see pages 134-143 of the March-April 1997 issue of *Southern Accents*. You will especially enjoy the photographs by Dominique Vivillon and the article by Jim and Madeleine's daughter Margaret.

July 26: We will have our annual meeting on the Saturday before the opening of the Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference. The theme for the July 25-August 1 program is "Faulkner at 100: Retrospect and Prospect." A preliminary announcement is enclosed, and details about the SAC meeting will be forthcoming. Macie and I will soon return to our newly renovated home, designed by architect Tom Howarth, and we look forward to sharing it with you during a dinner there after the SAC meeting.

October 18-19: "Southerners in New York: A Homecoming Celebration" will bring many accomplished Southerners to Oxford for a weekend of lectures, readings, and discussions. You won't want to miss this exciting event.

October 18-19: The 6th annual Mississippi Delta Tennessee Williams Festival will take place in Clarksdale. The program will include presentations by Williams authorities and friends, several performances, tours of the house and neighborhood where the playwright lived as a child, and a drama competition, with prizes totaling \$4,000 for the winners. Please encourage the high schools in your area to enter the competition. For information, call 661-623-7117.

I look forward to seeing you in Natchez in May and during other Center events during the coming months.

Enclosures

1997 page 71

CVS
send to
ann J.

2h May 15

ADS for Democrat

1 ad

1/4 page w/ lec + events
+ price
w/ ticket #

6 ads

16"

3 col x 6"

May 13 Tues.

① Sat evening tickets to 2 events
4 pix of honorees

May 20 Tues

② Lit tour + pix to be taken

May 26 Mon.

③ next of kin tour 3 pix

Fri May 23

④ Ponder Heart - Welty pic ✓ Ann has pic

Tues May 27

⑤ movie - Faulkner pic ✓ Ann has pic
with

Th May 22

⑥ free lectures - Welty / Faulkner
pic?

Pix in most ads

Get speaker pix to Ann - if
they're missing at Demo - scanning

NATCHEZ VISITOR CENTER
(Opening May 1998)
Touch Screen Kiosk Program Information

ATTRACTIONS

(Please Circle)

TYPE

Museums	Plantations	Historic Houses	Churches
Antiques	Galleries	Fishing/Hunting	Nature Sites
Special Buildings	Casino	Music Venues	Sports
<u>Special Events</u>	Night Clubs		

NAME: Natchez Literary Celebration

DESCRIPTION: (25 Words Max) This 3-day conference annually focuses on the literature, history, & culture of the South. Events include lectures by noted authors and scholars and related movies, plays, concerts, tours, and exhibits.

ADDRESS: Copiah - Lincoln Community College, Natchez

ADMISSION: free and low-cost

HOURS: 9 a.m. - 10 p.m. daily

HANDICAP ACCESS:

(Please Circle)

Yes

No

TELEPHONE: 601-446-1206

Name & Title of person completing form: Carolyn Vance Smith

Return form to: Natchez CVB
Visitor Center Project
P.O. Box 1485
Natchez, MS 39121
Fax: 601-442-0814

Caring Leadership

"Will D. Campbell of Mt. Juliet, Tenn., formerly of Mississippi, prize-winning author of *Providence*, *Another is a Dragonfly and Forty Acres and a Goat*.

"Ellen Douglas of Jackson, Miss., author of *A Family's Affairs*, *Apostles of Light* and other novels, all of which have won literary awards.

"Bethany Sultman of New Orleans, author of dozens of articles in national magazines and several books, including a runaway best seller, *Rebreath Heaven*.

"Kenneth W. Holden of The University of New Orleans, program director of the New Orleans Literary Festival and an authority on William Faulkner.

"Glen Jeannerod of the University of Wisconsin, author of *Messiah of the Masses: Huey P. Long*.

"Robert V. Reardon of The University of Illinois at Chicago, the nation's leading authority on Andrew Jackson and Henry Clay.

"Patrick Carmody, S.J., of New York, literary editor of *America* and author of a new biography, *Walker Percy: A Life*.

"Noel Polk of the University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, author and editor of numerous works about Eudora Welty.

"William Ferris, director of The Center for the Study of Southern Culture at The University of Mississippi, Oxford, and editor of *The Encyclopedia of Southern Culture*.

"Jason R. Buchheit of New Orleans, producer of the film *On Dining and Dynasties: A Documentary* which reveals the families behind the New Orleans restaurants, Antoine's, Galatoire's and Commander's.

Pastor: *Winner of the 1991 National Award of Literary Excellence Award* was

"Most of the lecture series is free, with tours to historic homes and buildings, the film, the play and social events priced individually at low cost," Smith said. Tickets are available by calling Natchez Box Office, 1-800-882-0206. Complete ticket packages cost \$198, with a special package at \$295 which includes all tickets, four nights' housing in a downtown hotel and 11 meals, May 29-June 5.



The Natchez Literary Celebration

Sponsored by
 Copiah-Lincoln Community College,
 Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and
 Natchez National Historical Park of the National Park Service.

Post Office Box 694
 Natchez, MS 39121-0694
 (601) 442-0274
 Fax (601) 442-0295

from Christy Williams, publicity director, 1997 Natchez Literary Celebration

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Famous Southern families will be "tossed and discussed" at the eighth annual Natchez Literary Celebration May 29-31, says conference co-chairman Carolyn Vance Smith.

"From the Lees of Virginia to the Longs of Louisiana, from the Penderes in Eudora Welty's fiction to the Snopeses in William Faulkner's, we'll learn a lot about real and fictitious families," she said.

The theme of the 1997 event is "Famous Southern Families in Fiction and in Fact," Smith said. Speakers are writers and scholars from across the country, many of whom are famous in their own right. "They will discuss individual Southern families as well as groups of Southerners from networks to ancestors," she said.

To take place in the historic river city of Natchez, Miss., with headquarters at The Natchez Ellis Hotel, the 1997 Celebration is a three-day conference which annually explores the literature, history and culture of the Deep South. Co-sponsors are Copiah-Lincoln Community College, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the Natchez National Historical Park.

"Enhancements to the lecture series are tours to historic mansions, a performance of Miss Welty's *The Ponder Heart*, a showing of the four-star film *Tencher at Once Upon a Time...*, custom booksigning parties and gala social events," Smith said.

Speakers include:

"Citizen Taulbert of Tulsa, Okla., a Mississippi native who is the prize-winning author of *Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored* and *Last Train North*.

"James Autry of Des Moines, Iowa, author of two acclaimed volumes of poetry and writer of such best-selling non-fiction books as *Confessions of an Accidental Businessman* and *Love & Peppercorns: The Art of*

more

1997 page 74

Jean W. Gandy

100 NORTH PEARL STREET • NATALON, MISSISSIPPI 39120

PHONE AND FAX: 601-444-4541

April 24, 1997

April 24, 1997

Carolyn Smith

AND ADDRESS FOR THE SERVICE

SA 1: 446-1296

Please deliver to ~~me~~ Two pages including this one.

CVS

Ann:

Here is the list of stories I gave to Henry. We are on track with the Sunday story (the 1940) and Henry thought the rest of the schedule looked good.

Hope this helps. I'll see you soon.

Jean

CVS:

Here is the list of stories with dates - to you soon. J.

See to Sunday (page 2)

CVS

1. Daily coverage of literary celebration
2. Daily block as done last year (Thursday, Friday, Saturday)

Small stories done ahead to run close to or during celebration

1. Highlighting daily story also to include opportunity to visit original edition of from with the wind, 1940
2. People attending celebration include luncheon luncheon from villages and universities in Mississippi and numerous books.

Other stories and possible dates to run:

1. Overton story with photos of speakers and separate photo of Helen Douglas (1/4 Boston) and one of the manuscript she will include in her lecture.....April 15 or 16
2. Winners of the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award are Elizabeth Spencer and Shelby Steele. Both will come to accept the award.....April 17
3. Showing of "Once Upon a Time When I Was Beloved" in four time slots by William Faulkner will be shown in Natchez. It will alternate as an evening entertainment with Delores Kelly's play "The Ponder Heart".....May 11
4. A "Literary tour" of Natchez will include many people and photos associated with books and writings, a visit to the Natchez as Trinity Episcopal Church.....May 12
5. A different kind of house tour: looking at houses where "land of the" lived and shared family time.....May 21
6. Precelebration bookish story possibly featuring an exhibit of quilts to the in the history program by William Faulkner and Jeanette Kelly (photo of quilt exhibit).....May 24

Perhaps someone staff writer could interview Natchez native Henry Holmes who is one of the speakers on the program!

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file publicity

April 15, 1997

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Richard Wright Literary Foundation Award Winners

Mississippi writers Shelly Foote and Elizabeth Spencer have been named the 1997 Richard Wright Literary Foundation Award winners and will accept their awards at the Nathan Literary Celebration on May 11.

The announcement of this year's winners in fiction and non-fiction writing came from Dr. David G. Manning, chairman of the nominating committee and former University of Mississippi history professor.

"The committee is delighted with our selections and equally thrilled that both Dr. Foote and Ms. Spencer will join us in Jackson for the conference," Manning said.

"There are truly literary ghosts of their times whose works represent some of the best among Southern and even among all American writers," he said.

Foote, winning for his life's work in non-fiction, is best known for his monumental historical work, "The Civil War," three volumes written during a period of 10 years.

"Dr. Foote also has produced a fine body of fiction, but he became internationally acclaimed for his historical books after the 1991 PBS adaptation of the Civil War series," Manning said.

Foote was born in Greenville in 1918. His writing career began during his student days at the University of North Carolina, where he contributed to the school's literary journal.

"Ms. Spencer, our fiction winner, has written many highly successful novels and collections of short stories," Manning said. "Many of her fans remember especially 'The Light in the Piazza,' a 1960 novel which was made into a popular movie by the same name in 1981."

Spencer is a native of Carrollton, where she completed high school in 1939. She went on to receive a bachelor's degree from Arkansas College in Jackson and a master's degree from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn.

"Her awards are numerous," Manning said. "Her first novel, 'Birds in the Morning,' was a success and by the time her second book was published, 'The Good and Beautiful,' Elizabeth Spencer was recognized with an award by the American

(over)

NATION'S LITERARY CELEBRATION, RICHARD WRIGHT AWARD, PAGE 2

Awards of Arts & Letters."

The 1997 winners of the Richard Wright events join distinguished past winners, Manning said. They are Robert Coit, Margaret Walker Alexander, Willie Harris and Josephine Baker.

The award honors the work of Jackson native Richard Wright, born in 1908, the son of a country school teacher and an Illinois share cropper.

"Black Boy," Wright's autobiographical autobiography, was published in 1945 and sold 400,000 copies in three months.

Wright's first novel, "Native Son," was published in 1940 and was an immediate success. After working in Chicago, Wright moved to Paris, where he died in 1960.

The Nathan Literary Celebration will open on May 10 and will feature more than a dozen scholarly lectures on the theme, "Famous Southern Families in Fact and in Fiction."

The three-day conference, which also includes a play, a film and two meals, will offer opportunities for participants at the conference to purchase books written by the lecturers and to have them autographed, Manning said.

The Celebration, in its eighth year, is sponsored by Copeland-Hamrick Community College, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the Jackson National Historical Park.

More events are than. The lowest tickets for meals and other entertainment are available at Nathan Box Office, 1-601-425-0210 or 1-800-842-1259.

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Burton B. Hosch, Jr.
President - Natchez

May 6, 1997

Mrs. Carolyn V. Smith
270 Foster Mound Road
Natchez, MS 39120

Dear Carolyn:

Thank you again for rolling out early and giving the Methodist Men such an informative and entertaining program. When you concluded your remarks, I realized that you had very cleverly given us a lesson in both history and literature without us even knowing it!

I look forward to this year's Festival, which we know will be another resounding success. Thanks for giving us such an interesting preview of things to come.

Yours truly,

B. B.

Burton B. Hosch, Jr.
President - Natchez

BBH,Jr./rj

Grow With Us

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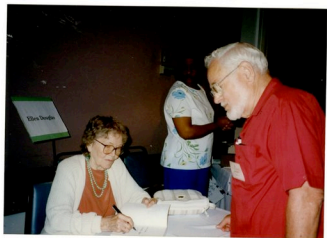


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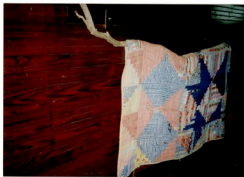
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CELEBRATING 175 YEARS
OF CHRISTIAN FAITH AND
LITERARY ACHIEVEMENT

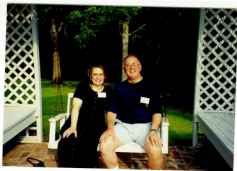
Artwork by
William M. Smith



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1997 page 93



1997 page 94





Brenda Cowart - Eastern
National - 1997
Exhibitors



Bill Ferris - 1997



Kenneth Halditch - 1997



Virginia Salmon
1997

1997 page 95



Clifton Taulbert-1997



Christy Williams
1997



Maya Angelou-1995



Elizabeth Spencer-1997

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United States Marine Corps
Band - 1995



Elizabeth Spencer



Bob Dodson



Shelby Foote
Elizabeth Spencer



William Smith



Nancy Guice &
John Guice



Helen Spencer &
Miriam Montgomery

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Shields Godfrey &
Carolyn Vance Smith



United States
Marine Corps Band



Peggy Forman & Jeanette Feltus



Herschel Gower &
Ron Davis



James Stribling

1997 page 99



Carolyn Harper-1997-



Jim McLure's Ron Switzer
-1997-



William Winter-1997-



William Winter-1997-

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Carolyn Vance Smith
Billy Thames -1997-
Willie Mae Dunn



William Ferris/Noel Polk
Marie Tyler-McGraw
Ellen Douglas
-1997-



Paul Johnson/Howell Garner
Ron Nettles -1997-



Pat Cater
-1997-

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Paul Johnson/Howell Garner
Marion Smith
Carolyn Vance Smith-1997-



Noel Polk / Ellen Douglas
(Josephine Houston)
1997-



Paul Johnson/Howell Garner
Linda Green/Eugenia Green
-1997-



Paul Johnson/Howell Garner
Marion Smith/Carolyn Vance Smith
Willie Mae Dunn/Billy Thoms
-1997



Billy Thomas
Marion Smith
Carolyn Vance Smith
-1997-



Ron Nettles & Johnny Junkin
-1997-



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Billy Thomas
Carolyn Vance Smith
Marion Smith
-1997-



Samuel White



Quilts by
Laura Parks



Dorothy Stubbs / Pauline Coy
Bill Ferris / Noel Polk /
Marie Tyler-McGraw / Ellen Douglas
(Josephine Harton)



Paul Johnson / Howell Garner
Ken Nettles - 1997-



Robert Remini



Josephine Haxton



1997 page 105



Josephine Haxton



Noel Polk



Marie Tyler-McGraw



Samuel White



Mimi Miller



William Winter, Robert Remini



Robert Remini



Robert Remini



Marie Tyler-McGraw



Robert Remini



Elbert Hilliard

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Robert Remini



Kenneth Holditch, Patrick Samway
1997

1997 page 109



Mangum - 1997



Carolyn Vance Smith, Elbert Hilliard
Bob Pally -
1997



Carolyn Vance Smith, Virginia Solomon
~~E. C. Solomon~~ - 1997 & C. Gibson



Bishop & Mrs. Allin
1997



Patrick Somway
1997



Bill Ferris-1997



Kenneth Holditch-1997



Howell Gorner, Anne McNeil
Louis DeVries- 1997

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Up to 3.6 CEUs available for teachers attending NLCC

Faculty and staff in Mississippi's schools are eligible to earn up to 3.6 Continuing Education Units (36 hours) for attending the 14th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

This award-winning, mostly free conference begins at 8 a.m., Wednesday, Feb. 19, and ends at 1 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 23, 2003.

A CEU registration fee of \$35 per teacher covers costs of CEU verification and the costs of pre-conference sessions, post-conference writing workshops, a concert Feb. 20, a walking tour Feb. 21 and all free events.

If a teacher cannot attend the entire conference, CEUs are available for the number of actual hours in attendance, up to the maximum of 36 hours. A CEU fee of \$65 applies to those not attending the entire conference.

Registration for CEU credit is available by calling Millicent Mayo, director of public relations, Natchez-Adams School District, or at the NLCC information desk in the Natchez Convention Center lobby.

Writers Guild of America an official sponsor of NLCC

Writers Guild of America (WGA), the Los Angeles- and New York-based union that represents 11,000 writers in television and

movies, has become an official supporter of the annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

"The Guild's board of directors unanimously voted to support the conference," said NLCC founder and co-chairman Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Natchez.

Attending this year's Celebration to represent the WGA is Victor Nunez of Tallahassee, Fla., an independent filmmaker who has twice won the Grand Jury Prize at Sundance Film Festival.

"What a compliment!" Smith said. "With this association, the Celebration is lifted to a higher level than ever."

Agreeing with Smith about the significance of the new WGA support are two leaders in the film world, both originally from Mississippi and now living and working in California. They are Gerald McRaney and Sam Haskell III, both of whom are members of the NLCC's Advisory Board.

"The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration shines the spotlight on the literary aspects of the cinema arts," said McRaney, nationally known actor (Major Dad) and chairman of the NLCC's Horton Foote Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing.

"I'm delighted that the Writers Guild of America has chosen to become an official participant in what has become academia's most significant recognition of screenwriting."

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



15th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration,
Feb. 24-29, 2004:

Theme: "Scoundrels to Statesmen:
Politics in the Deep South"

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Conference supporters

NLUCC 2003 donors and supporters

Generous support for the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration comes from many sources. These include:

- The National Endowment for the Humanities through the Mississippi Humanities Council, which has supported the Celebration annually since it began in 1990.
- The Mississippi Tourism Matching Grants Program
- The Tribal-State Compact Grants Program

CASH CONTRIBUTIONS/MATCHING GRANTS/DIRECT PAYMENTS

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**The eighth annual
NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION**

**FAMOUS SOUTHERN FAMILIES
IN FICTION AND IN FACT**

From Eudora Welty's fictional Ponders to William Faulkner's legendary Snopeses...from the real-life Lees of Virginia to the Longs of Louisiana...from philosophers to poets...from food experts to military heroes...from aristocrats to rebels to rednecks...

All kinds of Southerners will be explored during the 1997 Natchez Literary Celebration, an Olympic Award-winning event. This excitement-packed conference, called by Mississippi Humanities Council evaluators the state's "most significant conference of its kind," will reveal tantalizing details about Southern individuals and groups who left their legacy on the region's history, literature, and culture.

...

Free daytime presentations will take place at The Natchez Eola Hotel. Related free and low-cost events include tours of historic mansions, a play, a film, book signings, exhibits, and receptions.

Director of Proceedings



Mr. Winter

The Honorable William F. Winter
President, Board of Trustees
Mississippi Department
of Archives and History
and Former Governor of Mississippi

Celebration Co-chairmen



Mr. Barnett



Mr. Dodson



Mrs. Smith

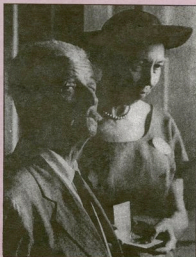
Celebration co-chairmen are James F. Barnett, Jr., Director of Historic Properties, Mississippi Department of Archives and History in Natchez; Robert Dodson, Superintendent, Natchez National Historical Park; and Carolyn Vance Smith, Instructor of English, Director of Public Information, and State Elderhostel Director, Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Natchez.



**THE EIGHTH ANNUAL
NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION**

presents

**FAMOUS
SOUTHERN FAMILIES
IN FICTION AND IN FACT**



Mississippi Writers William Faulkner and Eudora Welty, 1962

**The Natchez Eola Hotel
Natchez, Mississippi
May 29-31, 1997**

Sponsored by
Copiah-Lincoln Community College, the
Mississippi Department of Archives and History,
and the National Park Service



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EXHIBITS

Exhibits funded by the Mississippi Humanities Council will be on display throughout the 25th anniversary celebration. They will be located in the lobby of the War Memorial Building and at various spots in the Old Capitol Museum.

Special tours and gallery talks will feature specific exhibits on Monday and Tuesday. Please take time to enjoy these outstanding examples of MHC-funded projects. Consult your printed program for times, locations, and exhibit guides.

Craftsmen of Mississippi
Images of Madness

V.A. Patterson, Mississippi Craftsmen's Guild
Jane Crater Hiatt, Mississippi State Hospital/
Mental Health Association of the Capital Area

The Library and Its Community

Pamela Pridgen,
Hattiesburg Public Library

Natchez Jewish Homecoming

Marcie Cohen Ferris, Temple B'Nai Israel/
Museum of the Southern Jewish Experience

Shake 'Em on Down

John Ruskey, Delta Blues Museum

Exhibits and gallery talks throughout the celebration cosponsored by the organizations which produced them, as listed above.

FILM FESTIVAL

Screenings of MHC-Supported Videos

The Mississippi Humanities Council has supported many award-winning documentaries, dramatizations of classics, and other film, audio, and video programs. Some of the videos will be screened on Monday and Tuesday in the Senate Chamber. The programs will be introduced by humanities scholars, who are always a central resource for council-supported productions, and the scholars will answer questions and facilitate discussions following each screening.

These programs, many of which have been broadcast on public television and public radio, should be of interest to the general public and of special interest to teachers in history, literature and languages, music, and other humanities areas. Teacher Guides will be available at the sessions. Copies of the tapes are available on loan for educational purposes. A complete list of MHC videos is available upon request.

Screenings cosponsored by Mississippi Educational Television. Videos are available courtesy the Southern Humanities Media Fund, of which MHC is a member.

Freedom on My Mind, **Dr. Charles Sallis**, Millsaps College

The Delta Foundation, Producers: **Connie Fields** and **Marilyn Melford**

This two-hour documentary brings to life the dramatic story of the Mississippi Voter Registration Project (1961-1964) and the many individuals committed to racial justice who ultimately created the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party. Nominated for 1994 Academy Award for "Best Feature Documentary," winner of Grand Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival, 1994, John O'Connor Award, American Historical Association, and other prizes.

Tell About the South, I, **Dr. Ginger Hitt**, MS University for Women

James Agee Film Project, Producer: **Ross Spears**

The first episode of a three-part series which explores the literary tradition of the South, showcasing the rich history of the region and featuring interviews with numerous living authors, including Mississippians Eudora Welty, Shelby Foote, Willie Morris, and Margaret Walker.

For additional information, please contact MHC at 601-982-6752, write MHC, 3825 Ridgewood Road, Jackson 39211, or email barbara@mhc.state.ms.us. FAX 982-6750, or visit our Homepage at <http://www.ihl.state.ms.us/index.html>

The Mississippi Humanities Council does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age.

This program is supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities through the Mississippi Humanities Council

All Mississippi Humanities Council programs are free and open to the public. Anyone who does not choose to pay for the meal is welcome to attend the awards dinner. Seating will be provided.





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